



Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

art by
FUJIKAWA YUKA

story by
RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE

character design by
SHIROTAKA

10



NO!
DON'T
DIE,
RUDELIS!



DON'T
LEAVE
ME!

DON'T
LEAVE
ME LIKE
THIS!

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jobless reincarnation

10

art by YUKA FUJIKAWA
story by RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE
original character design by SHIROTAKA





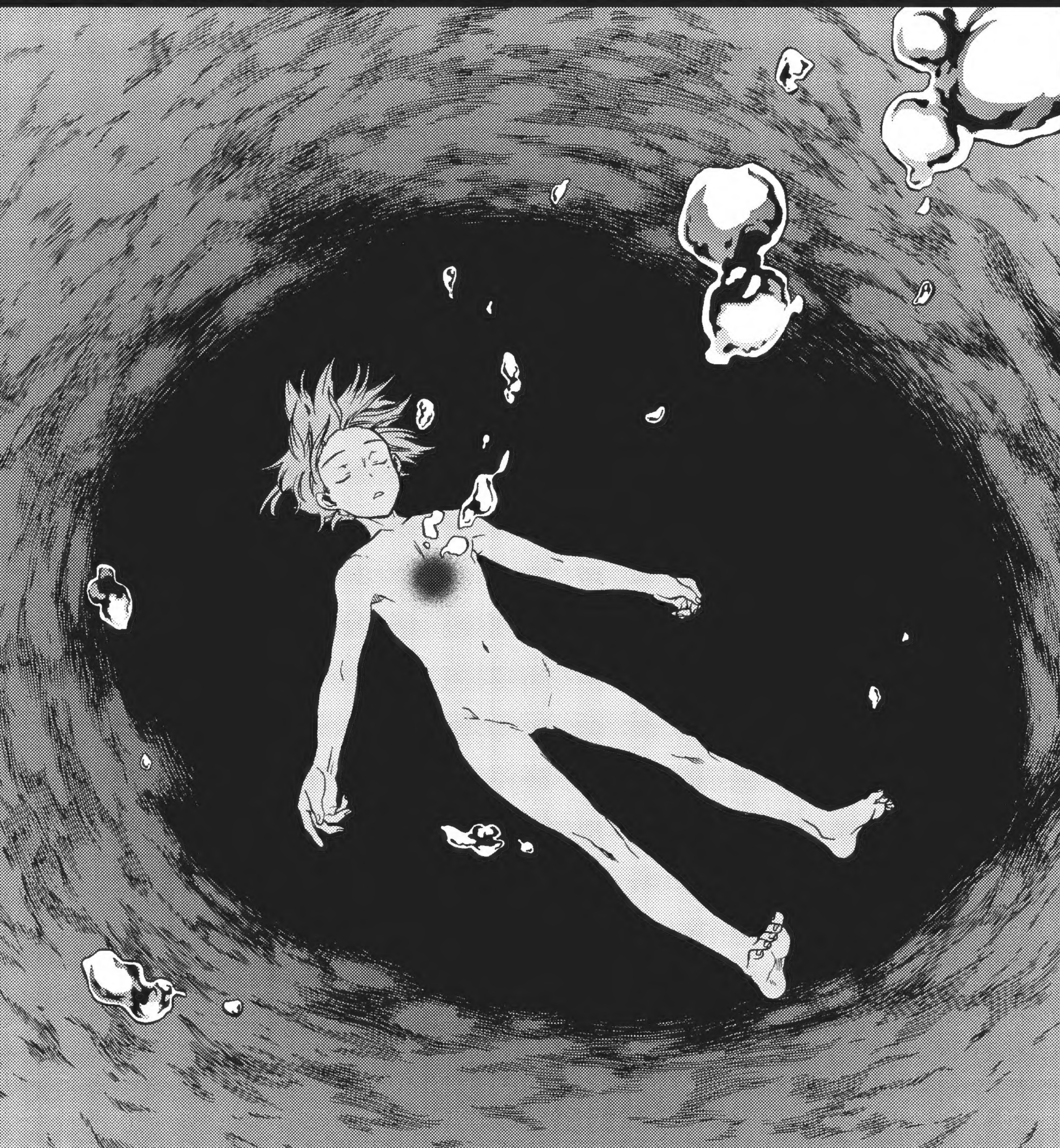
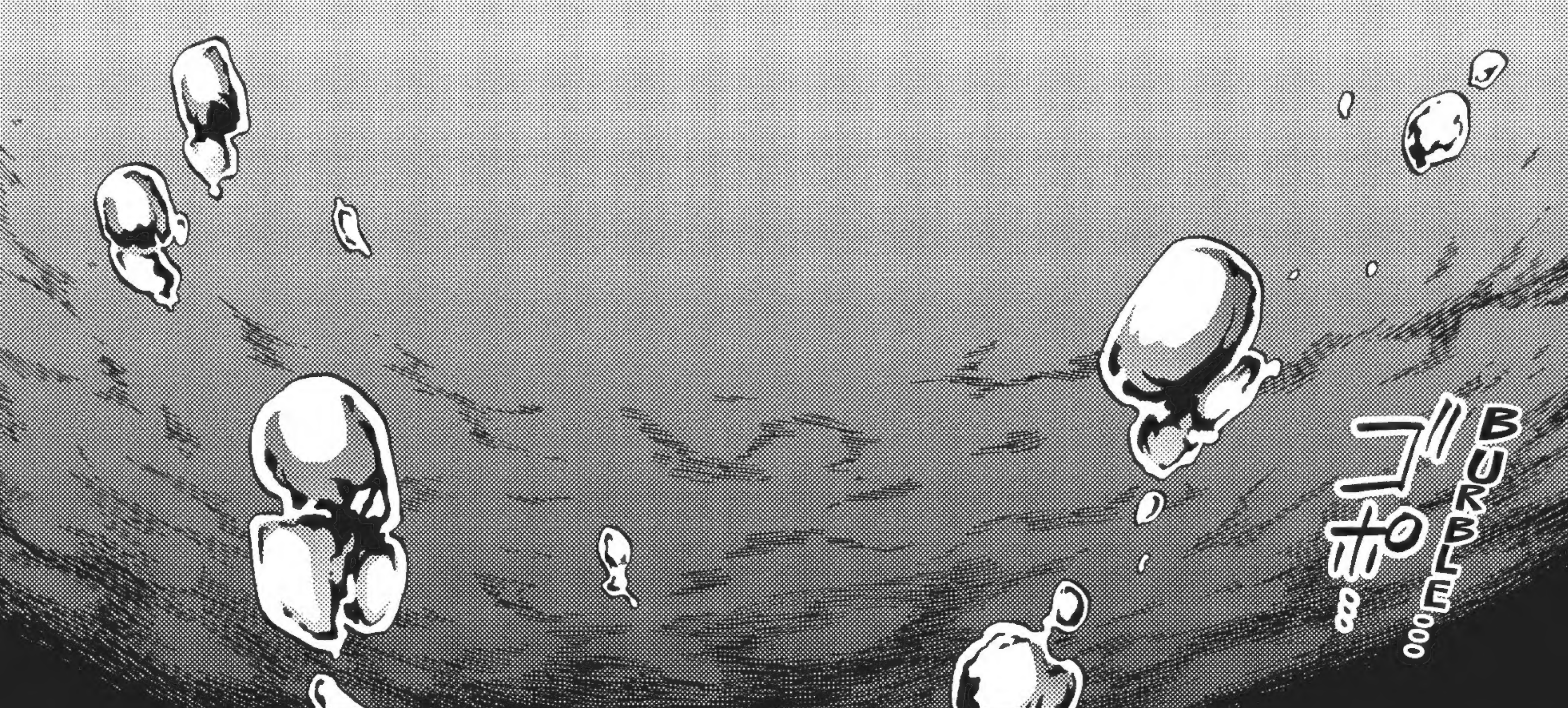
HEY...
ORSTED?

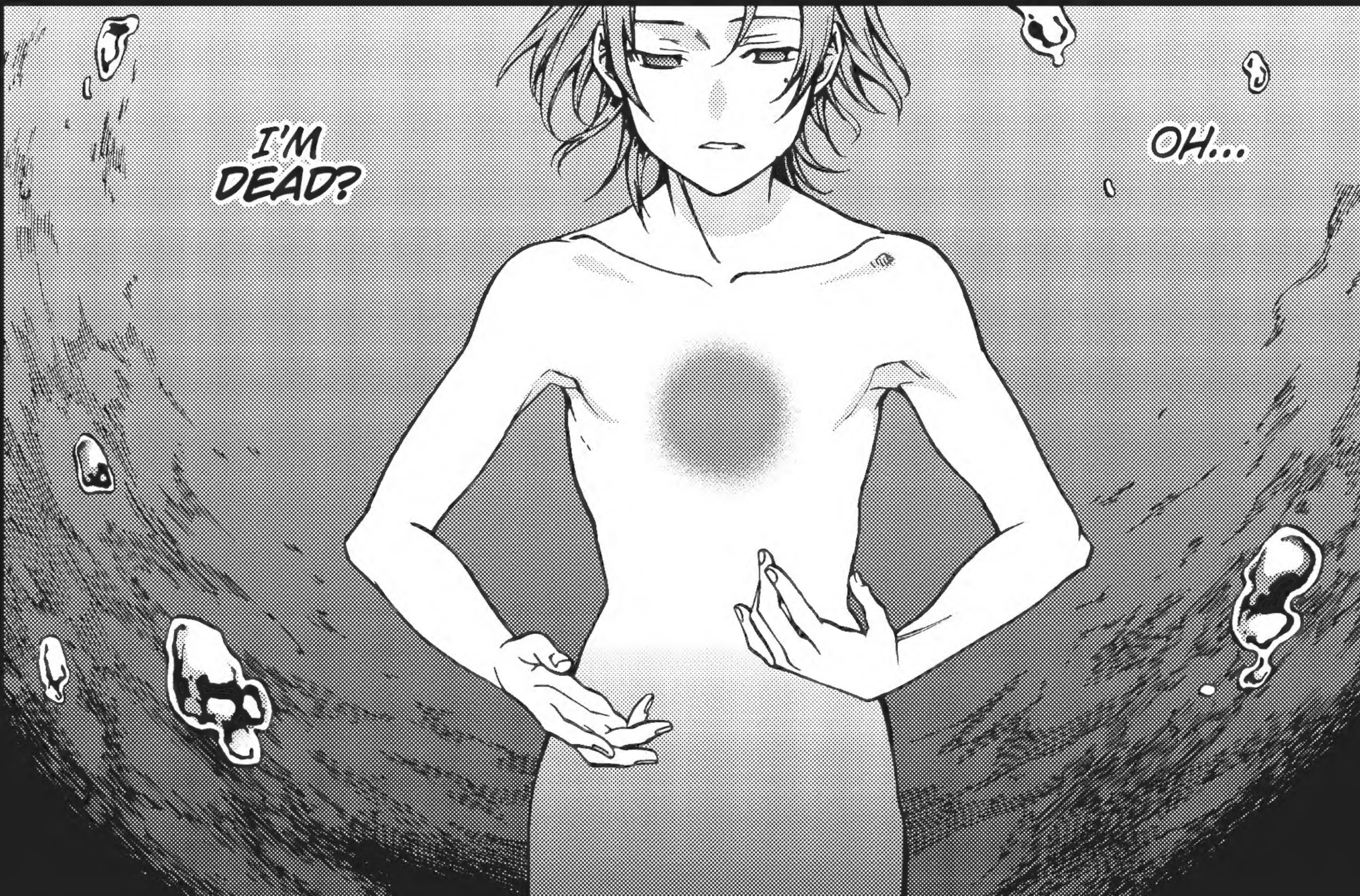
WE'RE
LEAVING,
NANA-
HOSHI.



IT'S
JUST...

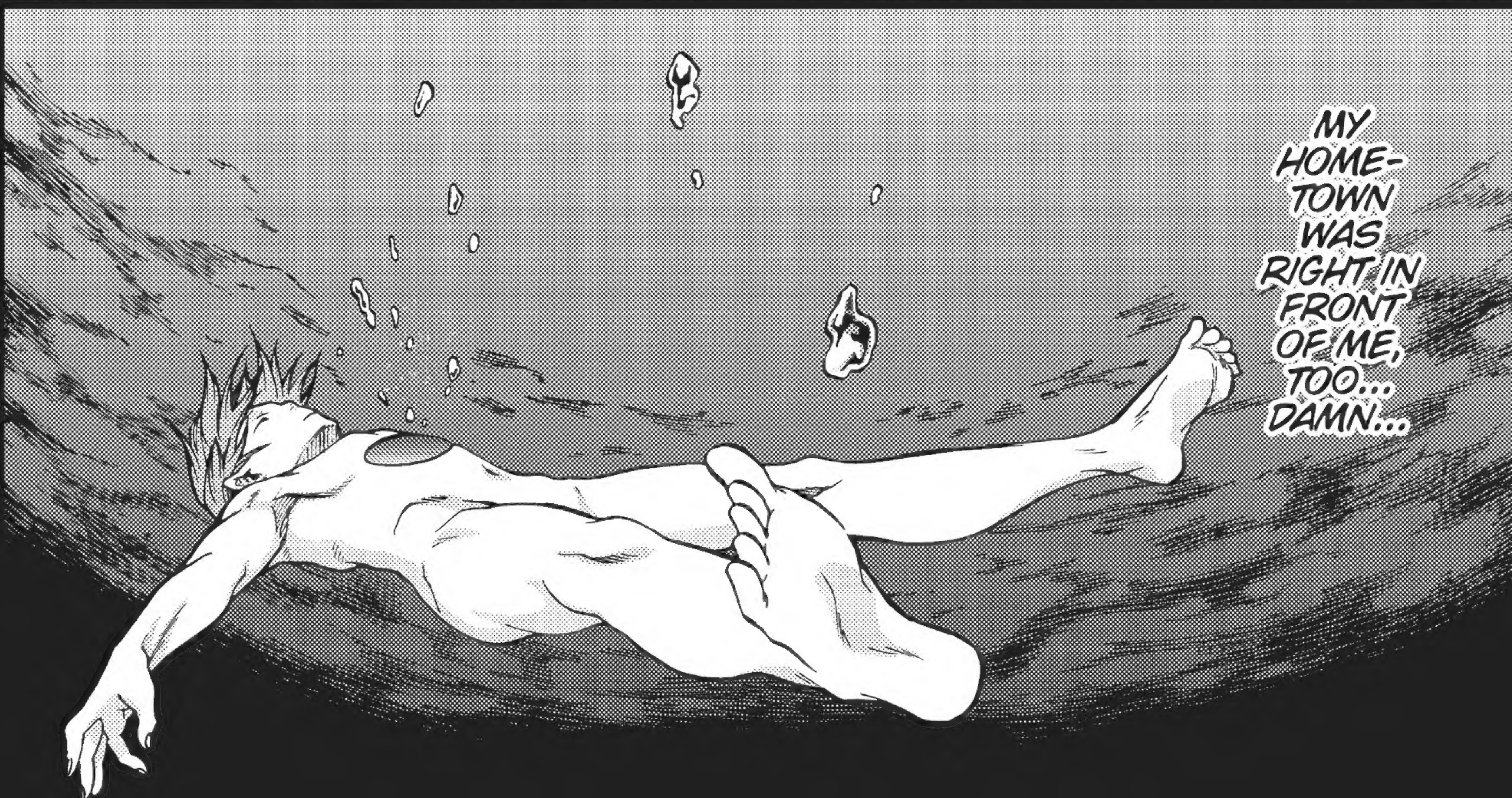
SOME-
THING'S
BOTHERING
ME.





I'M
DEAD?

OH...



MY
HOME-
TOWN
WAS
RIGHT IN
FRONT
OF ME,
TOO...
DAMN...



RUIJERO...
ARE THEY
OKAY?

ERIS...



PAUL...

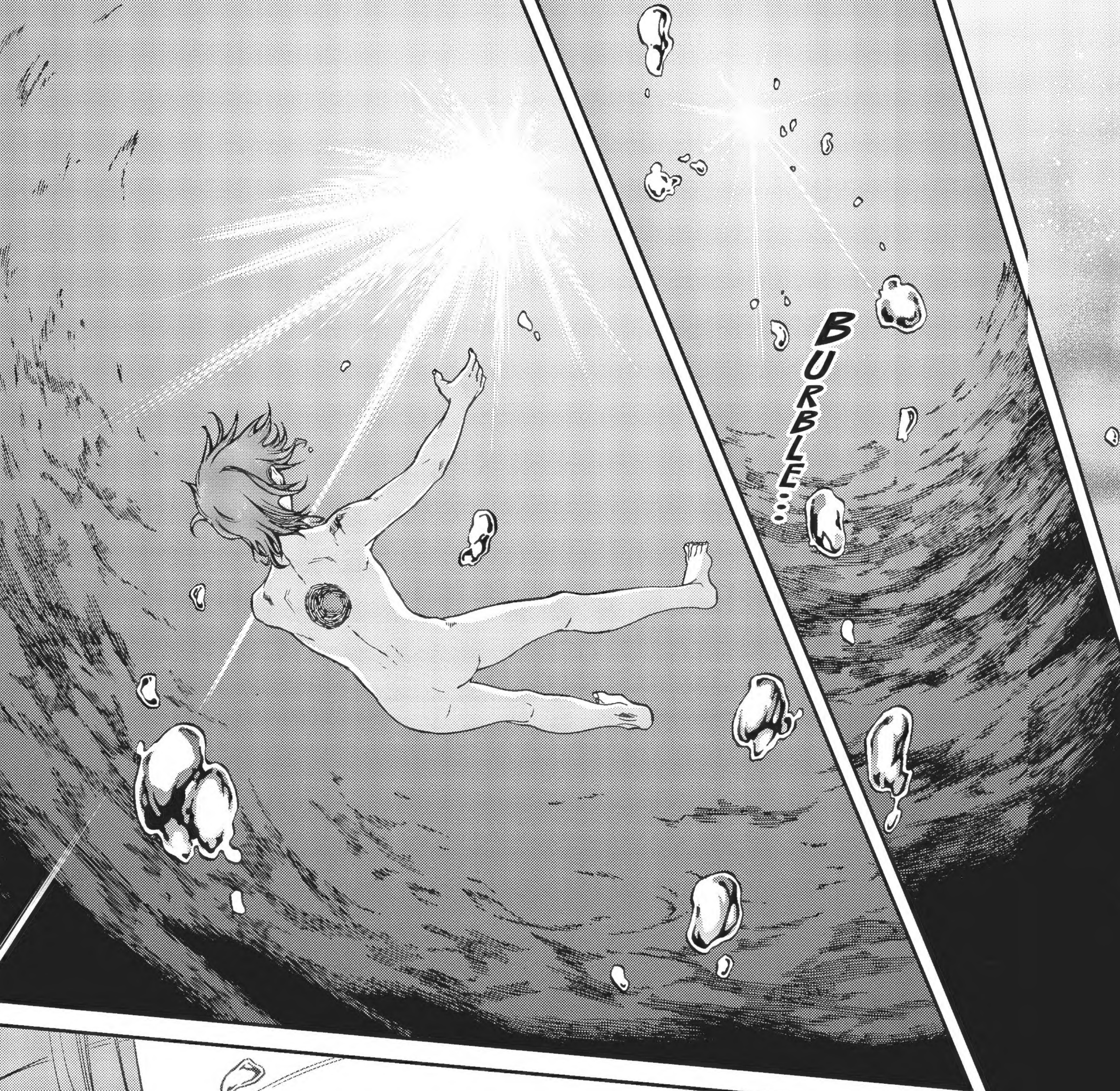
I'M
SORRY I
COULDN'T
FIND OUR
FAMILY.



DID YOU
MEET UP
WITH LILIA
AND
EVERY-
ONE?

I HOPE
MY
SISTERS
WILL GET
ALONG
AND LIVE
WELL.
FOR MY
SAKE...

ZENITH...
I HOPE
YOU'RE
OKAY.



BUBBLE...



WON'T
EVER
COME
TRUE...

OH...
MY
DREAM
OF
LIVING
WITH
EVERY-
ONE...



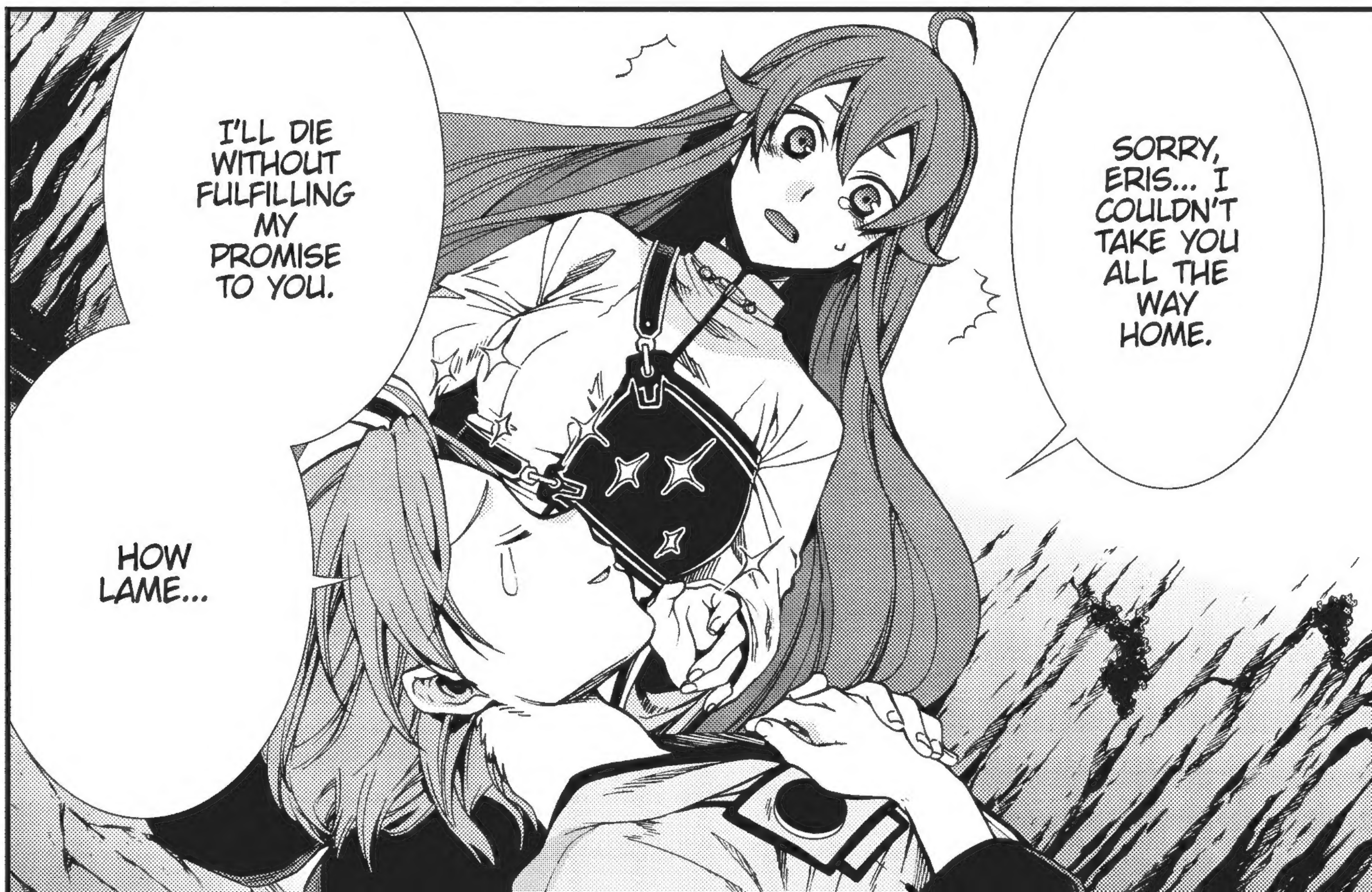


WHAT...?
MY LIFE IS
FLASHING
BEFORE
MY EYES?
PRETTY
REALISTIC,
ISN'T IT
...?

RUDELIS
...!



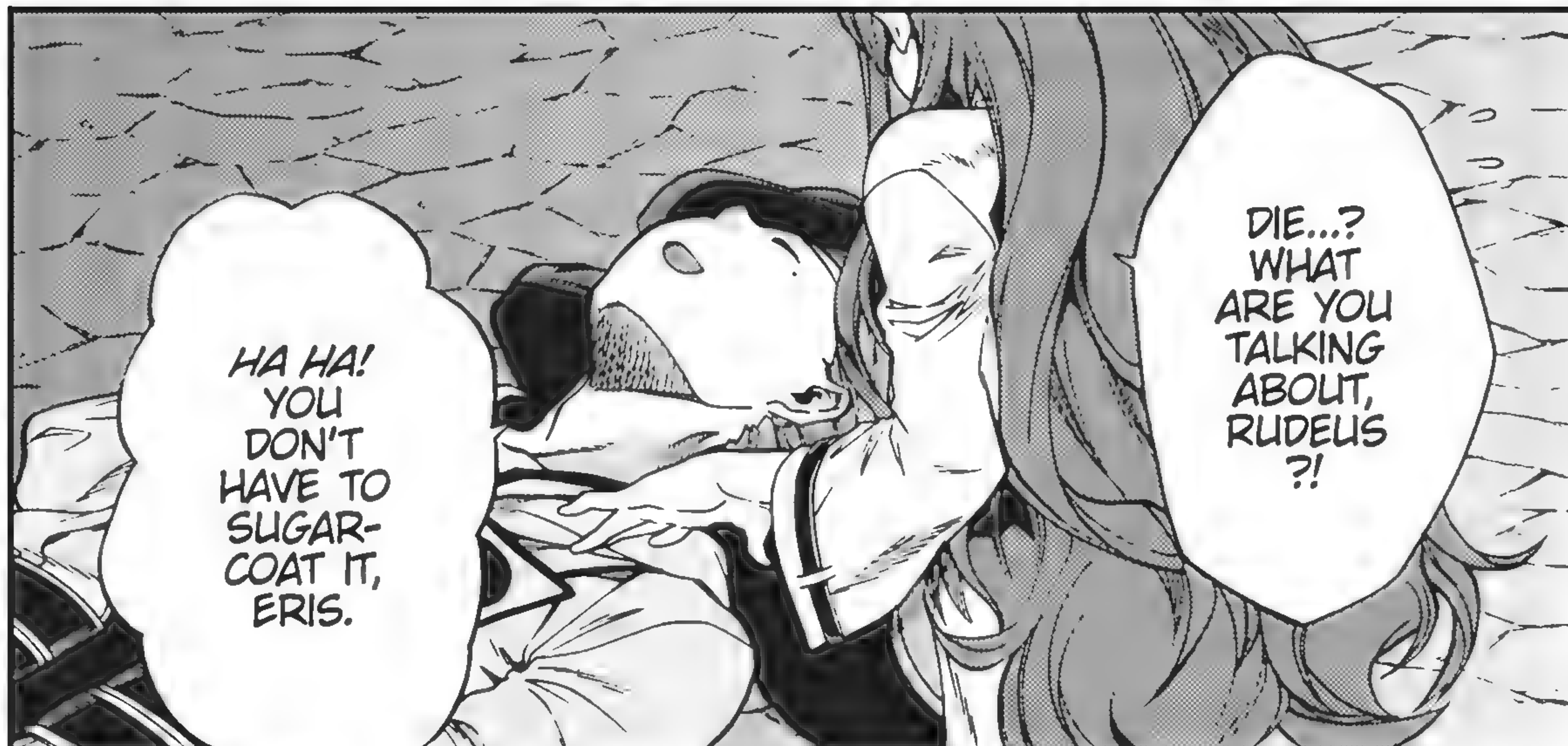
ERIS
...?



I'LL DIE
WITHOUT
FULFILLING
MY
PROMISE
TO YOU.

HOW
LAME...

SORRY,
ERIS... I
COULDN'T
TAKE YOU
ALL THE
WAY
HOME.



HA HA!
YOU
DON'T
HAVE TO
SUGAR-
COAT IT,
ERIS.

DIE...?
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT,
RUDELUS
?!



ORSTED
GOT ME
SQUARE
IN THE
CHEST.

THERE'S
NO WAY
I COULD
SURVIVE
A HIT
LIKE...





I'M
ALIVE
...?!

HUH...?
I...



Hey...
Orsted?

THAT
GIRL THEY
CALLED
NANAHOSHI,
SHE...

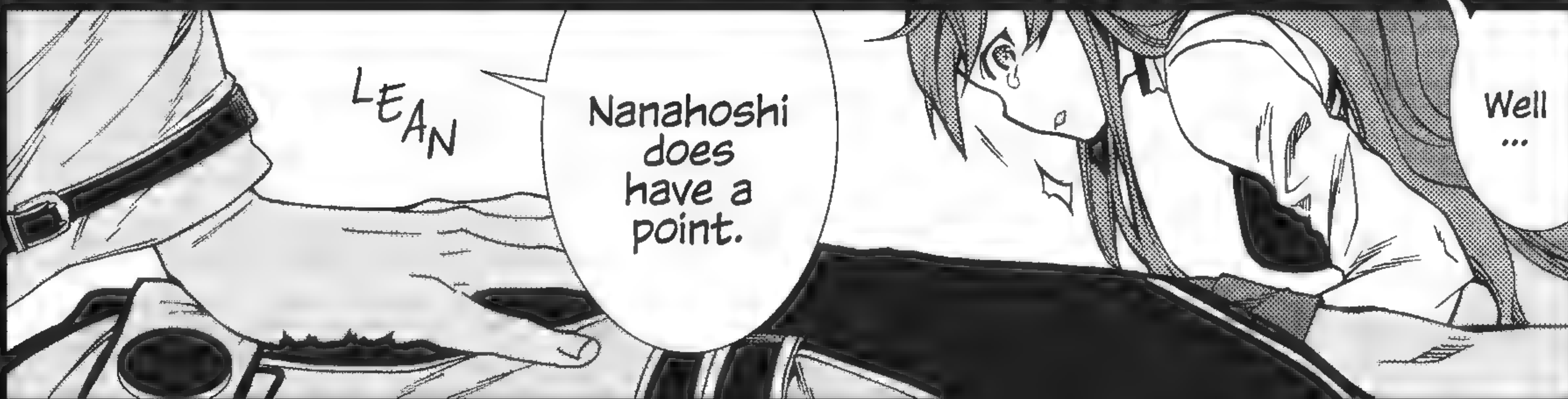
JUST
NOW...



Wouldn't
it be
better
to leave
him
alive?

It's
just...
some-
thing's
bothering
me.







HUH.

SO
THAT'S
WHAT
HAP-
PENED.



RUB...

HE HEALED AN
INJURY THAT
SHOULD HAVE
KILLED ME... THAT
MEANS HE HAS
HEALING MAGIC WAY
BETTER THAN MINE,
AND PROBABLY
PLENTY MORE
SKILLS BESIDES...



I MEAN,
THIS IS
AFTER HE
DEFEATED
ERIS AND
RUIJERD
JUST SO
HE COULD
KILL ME...

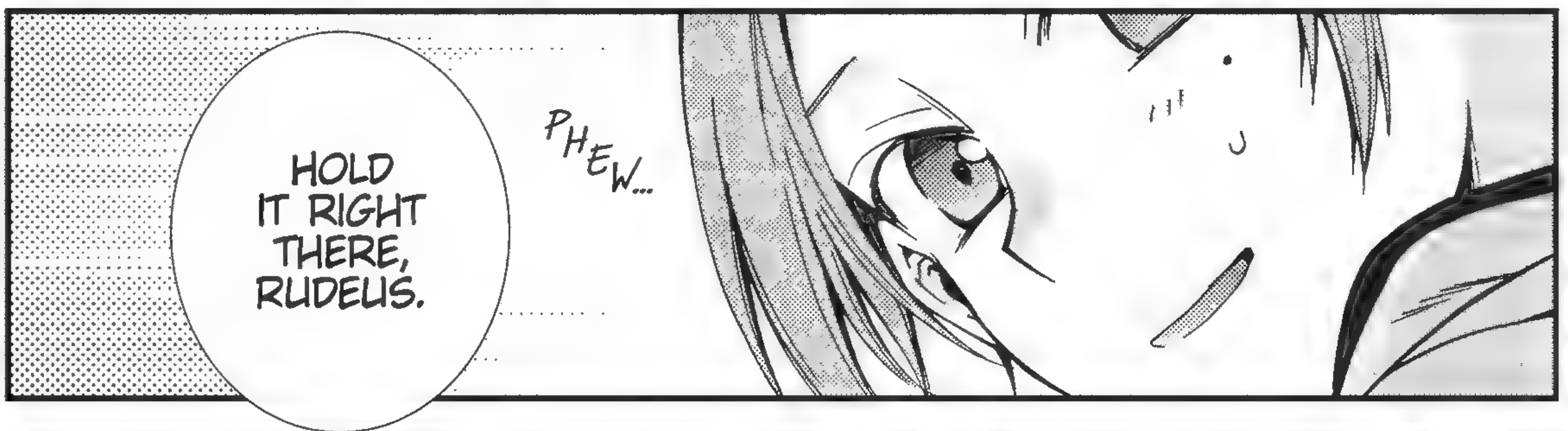
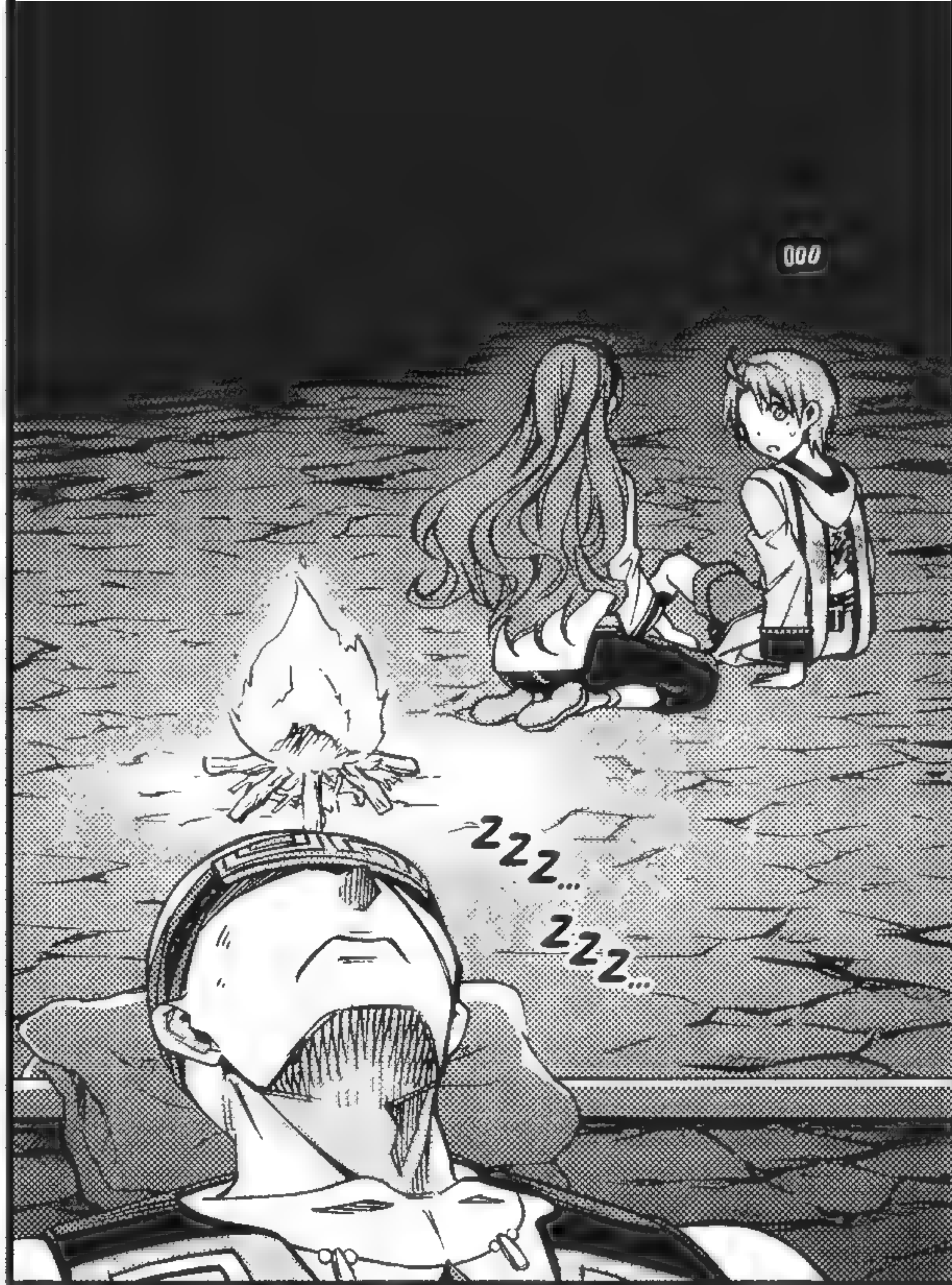
WHAT
WAS HE
THINKING...?
WHY GO OUT
OF YOUR
WAY JUST
TO SAVE
SOMEONE
YOU JUST
KILLED?

OH!



PLOOMF

PER-
FECT,
ISN'T
IT?





I, UH...
I MEAN...
YOU WERE
BADLY
INJURED,
SO...

WHAT?!
WHY'S
SHE
MAD?!

HE
HURT YOU
MORE THAN
ANYONE,
RUDEUS.
HE NEARLY
KILLED
YOU.



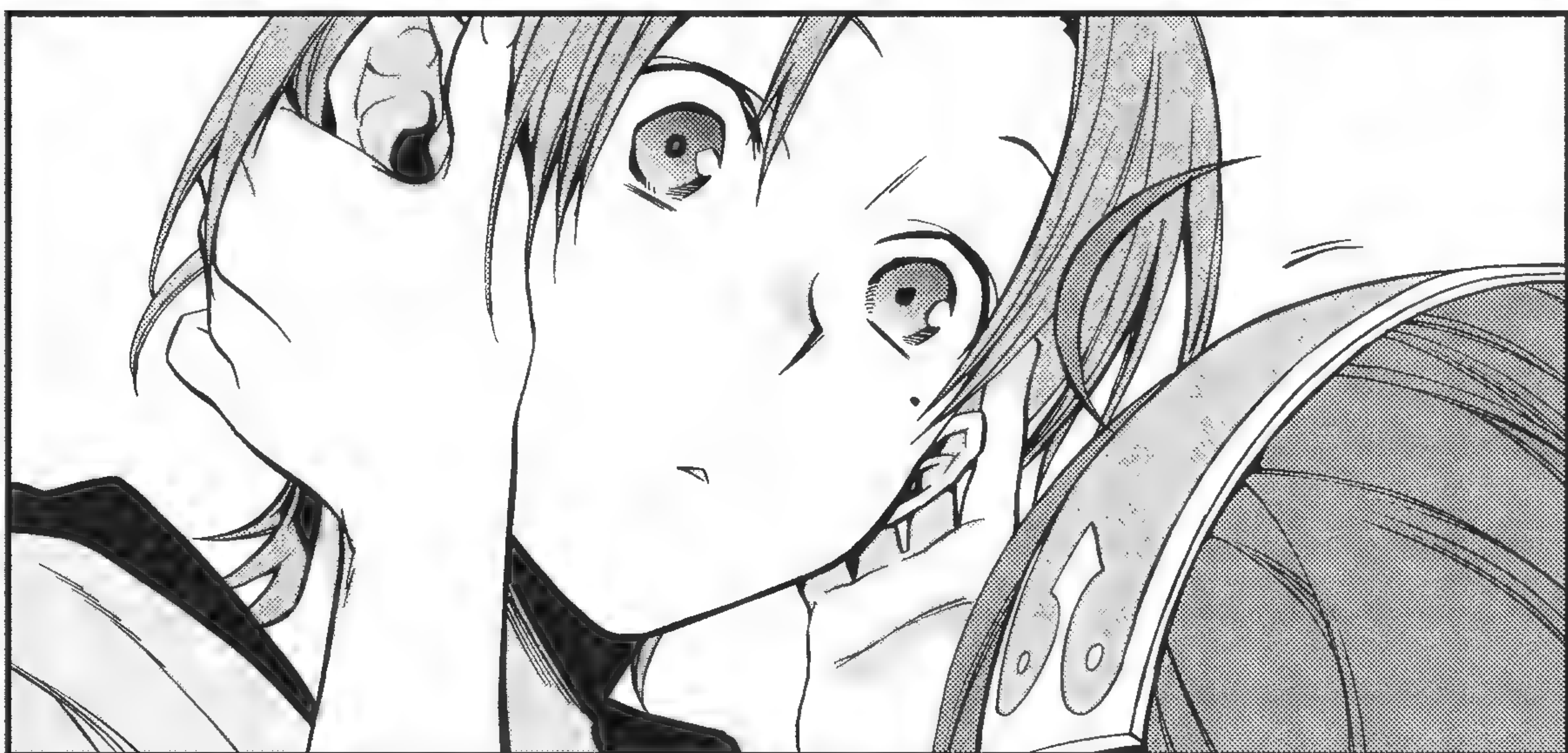
RUDEUS,
PLEASE...
LISTEN TO
ME. YOU
NEED TO
TAKE CARE
OF
YOURSELF,
TOO.

SORRY,
ERI--

SOR...

S...







I WAS
SO, SO
WORRIED.

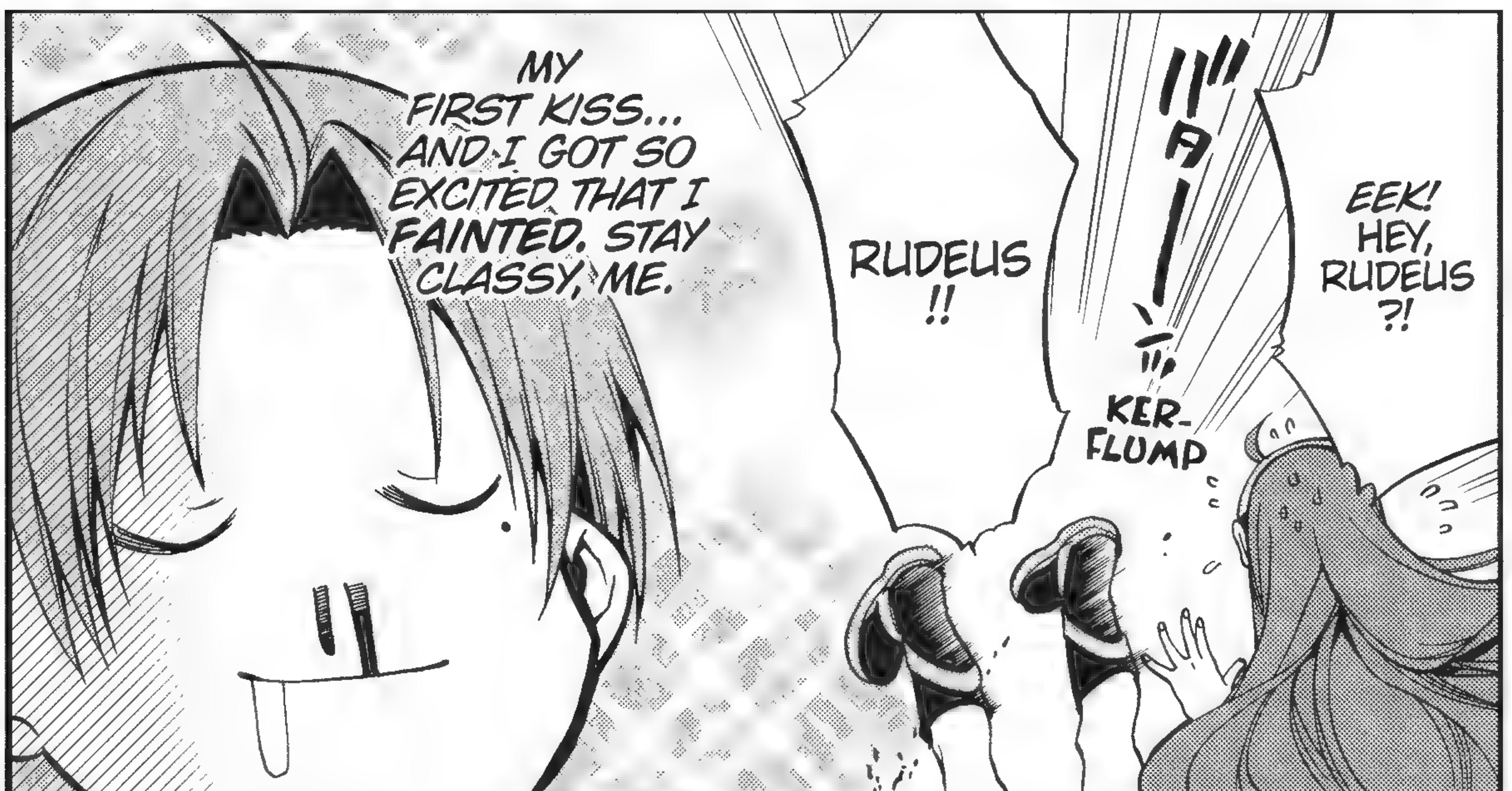
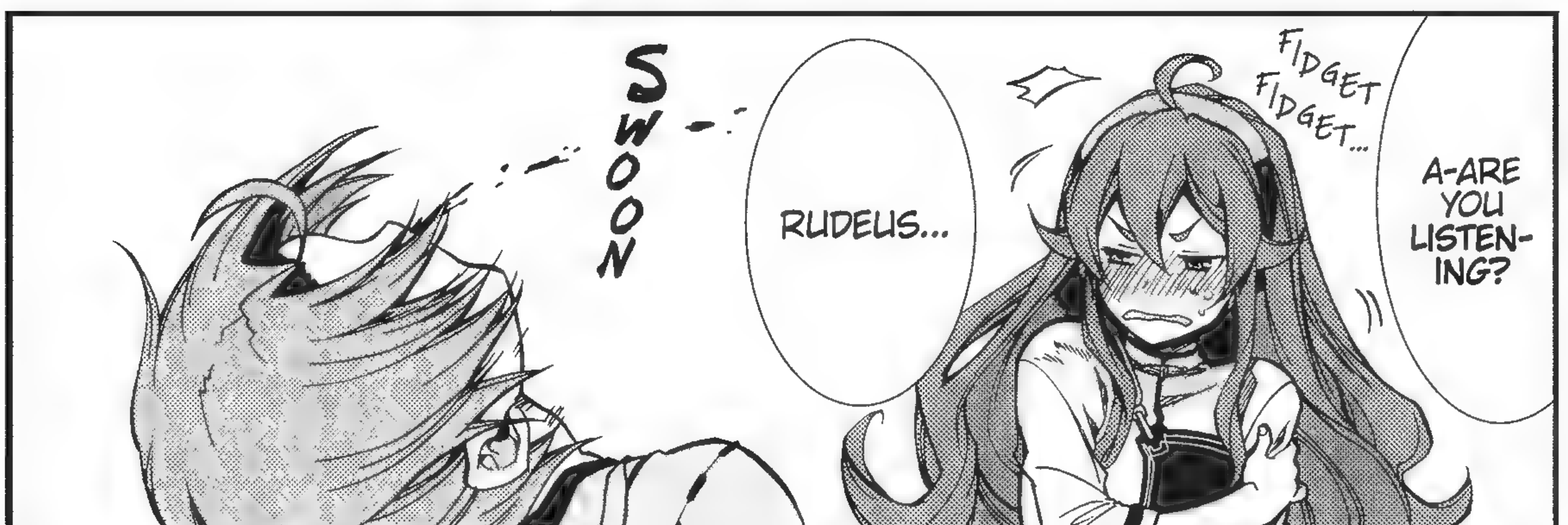
I WAS
CERTAIN
YOU
WERE
DEAD.



GADE...
GADE...
GADE...



THAT WAS
DEFINITELY...



SNICKER
SNICKER

I MEAN,
I NEVER
EVEN
KISSED
A GIRL
ONCE IN
MY PAST
LIFE!

NO, I
COULDN'T
HELP IT,
RIGHT?!

HUH?!

WHAT CAN
I DO?
MY HEART
KEEPS
BEATING
FASTER AND
FASTER....!

THA- THUMP THUMP THUMP

WHISPER:

SNICKER
SNICKER
SNICKER

DON'T
LAUGH,
HITOGAMI,
YOU
BASTARD!

THE
WHOLE
REASON
EVERY-
THING
GOT
NASTY
WAS
BECAUSE
I SAID
YOUR
NAME!

IF I WAKE
UP AND MY
HEAD'S STILL
ON ERIS'S
LAP, WHAT'LL
I DO...?

WHAT AM I
SUPPOSED
TO DO NOW?!

HOW AM I
SUPPOSED
TO LOOK
ERIS IN THE
EYE AFTER
THIS?!

HHH...

THA-
THUMP

BLINK...

THA-
THUMP

THA-
THUMP

THA-
THUMP

THA-
THUMP

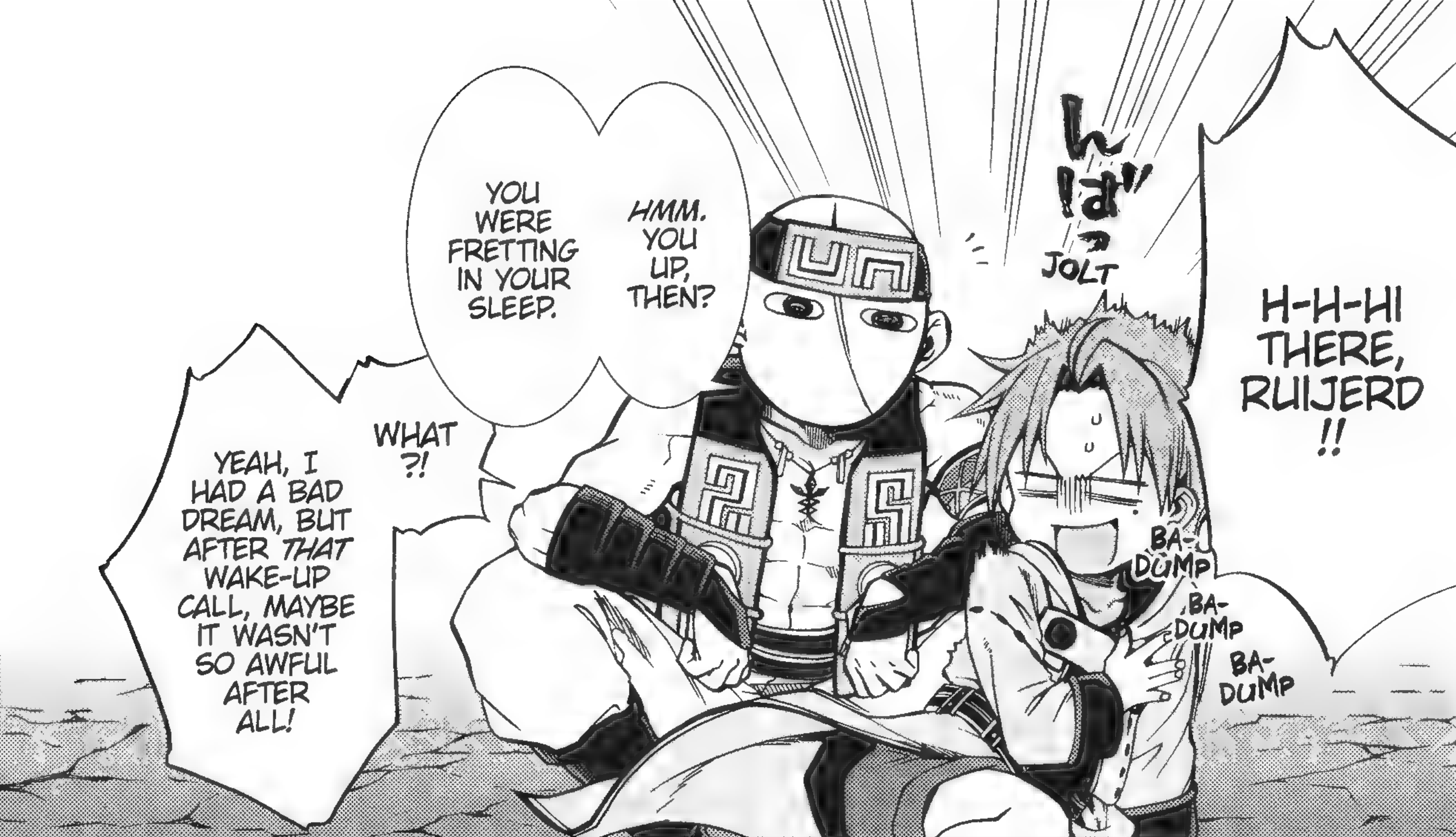
IL
TUTTA
IL
HEEEERES
RUIJERD!

BOOOO

AAAAACK!!

U
U
U
U
U
U





YOU WERE FRETTING IN YOUR SLEEP.

HMM. YOU UP, THEN?

h
la"
JOLT

H-H-HI THERE, RUIJERD !!

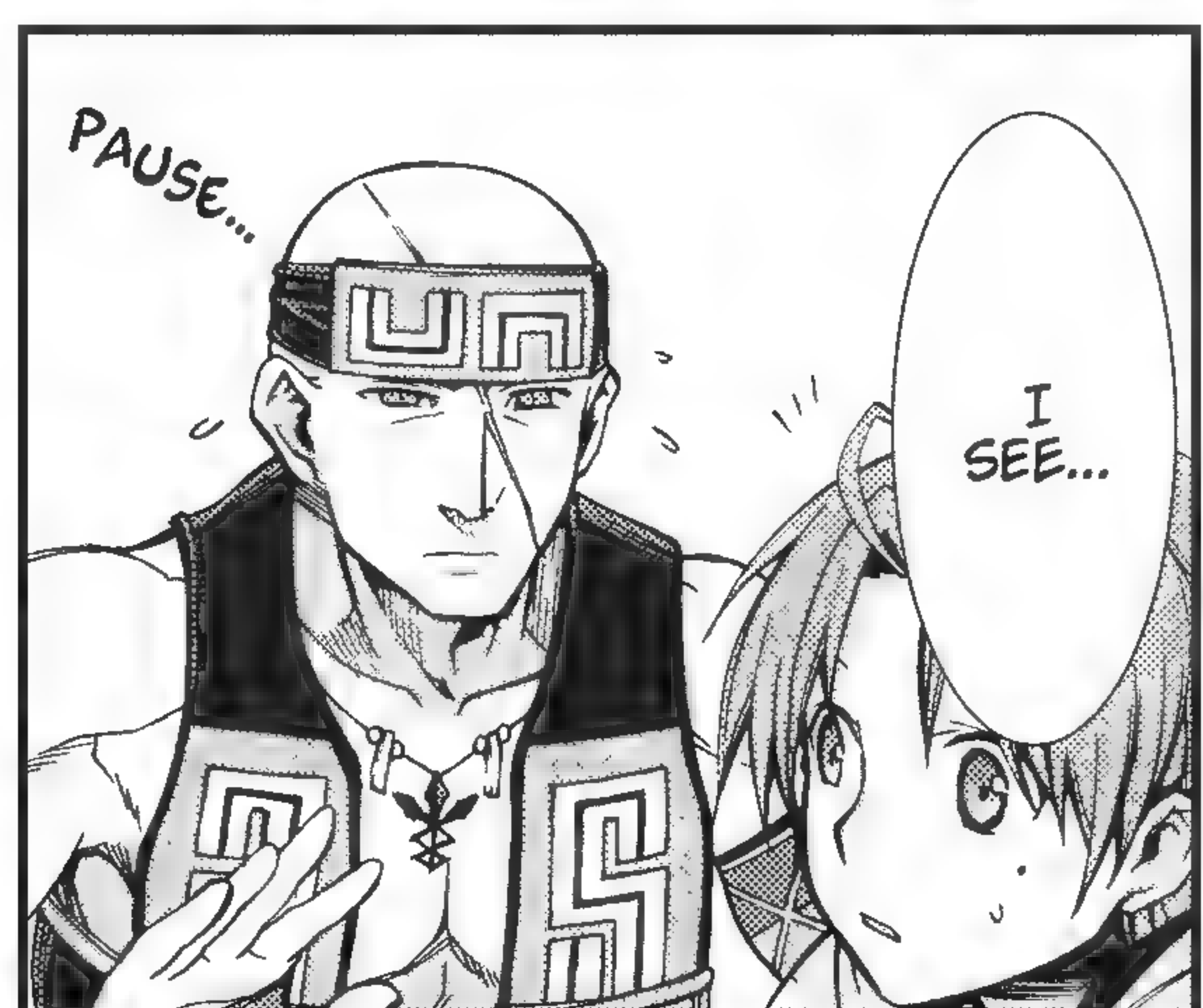
YEAH, I HAD A BAD DREAM, BUT AFTER THAT WAKE-UP CALL, MAYBE IT WASN'T SO AWFUL AFTER ALL!

WHAT ?!

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP



PAUSE...

I SEE...

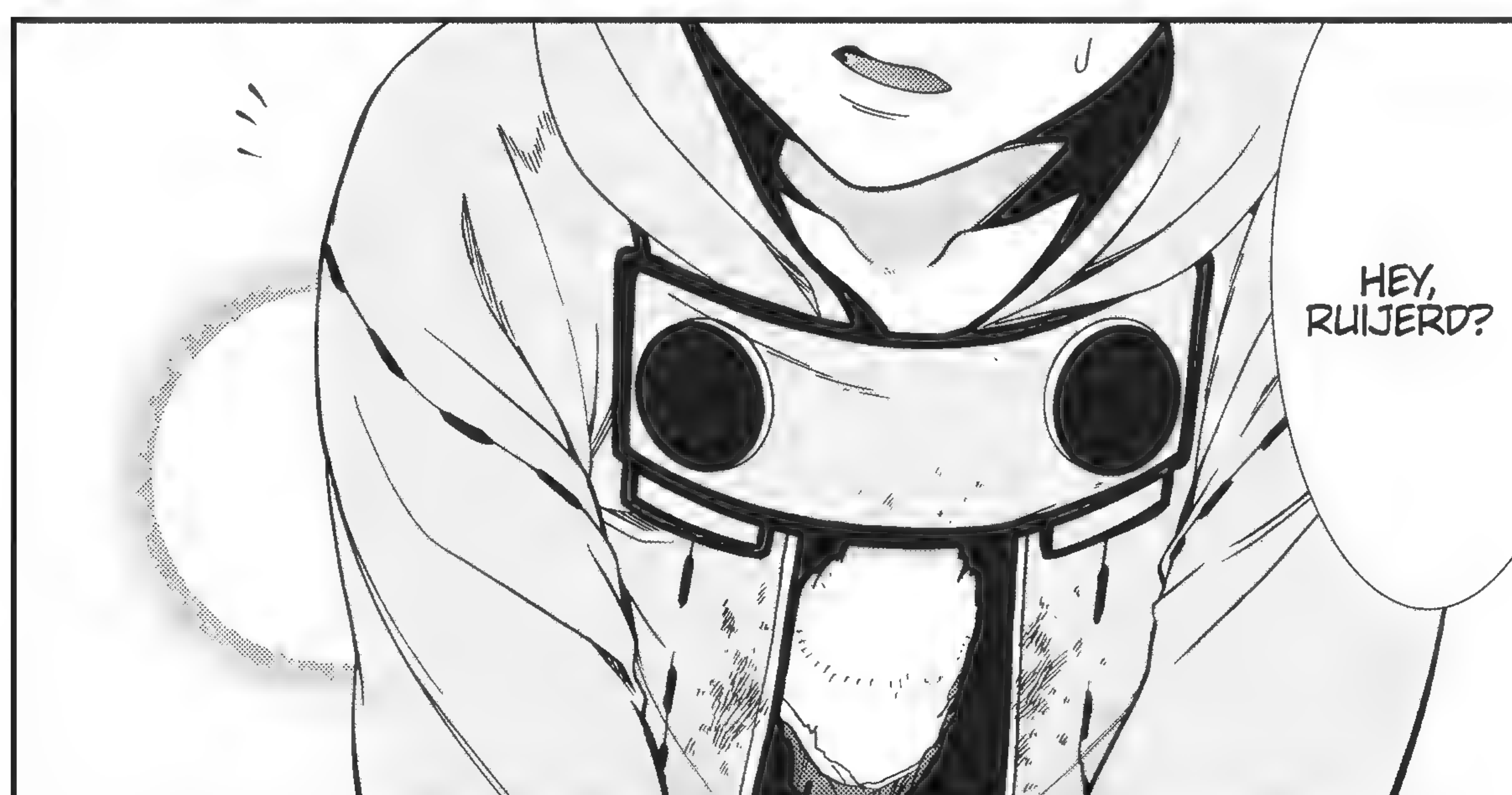


SHE'S PROBABLY TIRED. SHE NEVER LEFT YOUR SIDE.

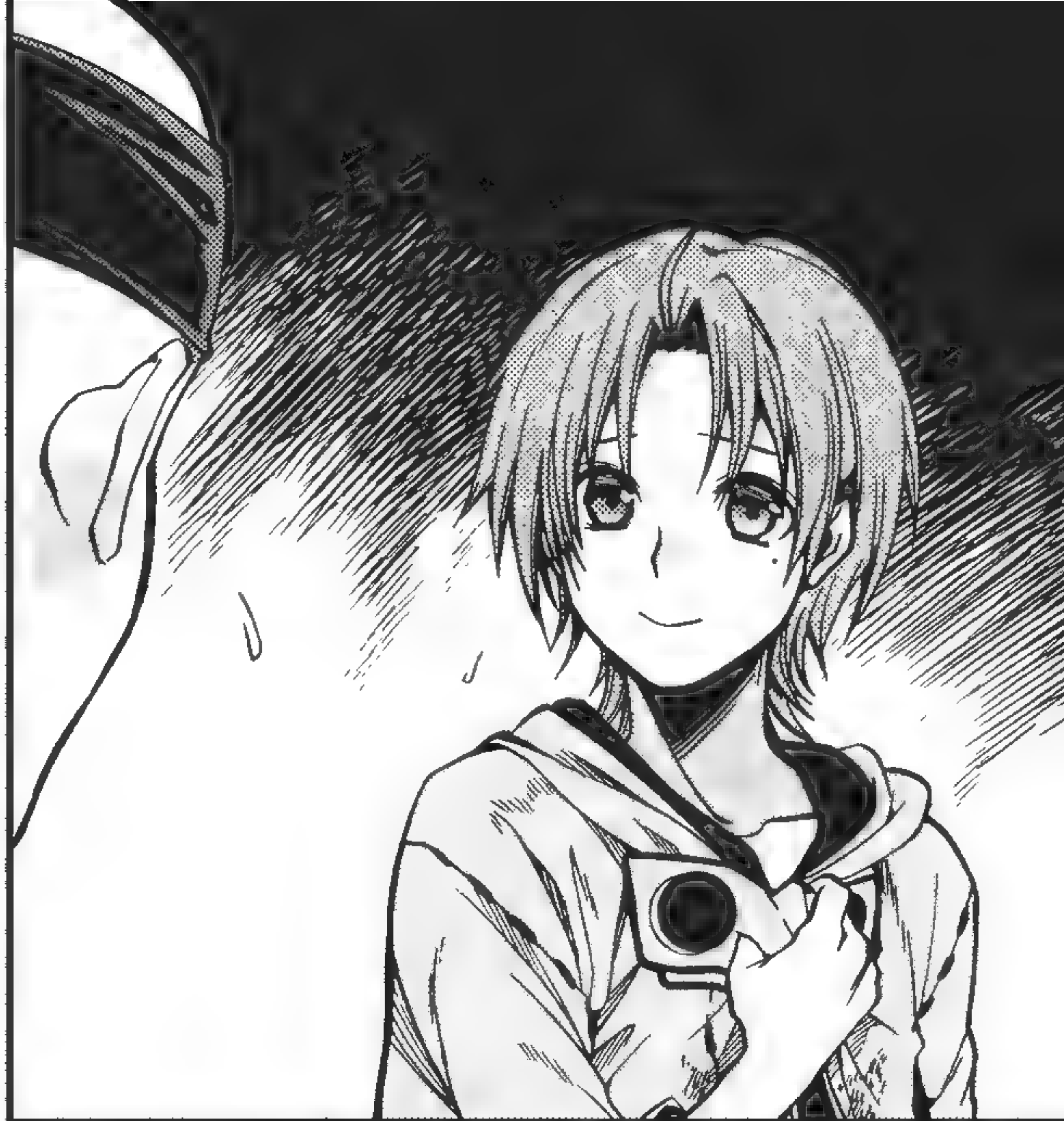
SLEEPING IN THE WAGON.

HUH? WHERE'S ERIS?

ZZZZZZZ...

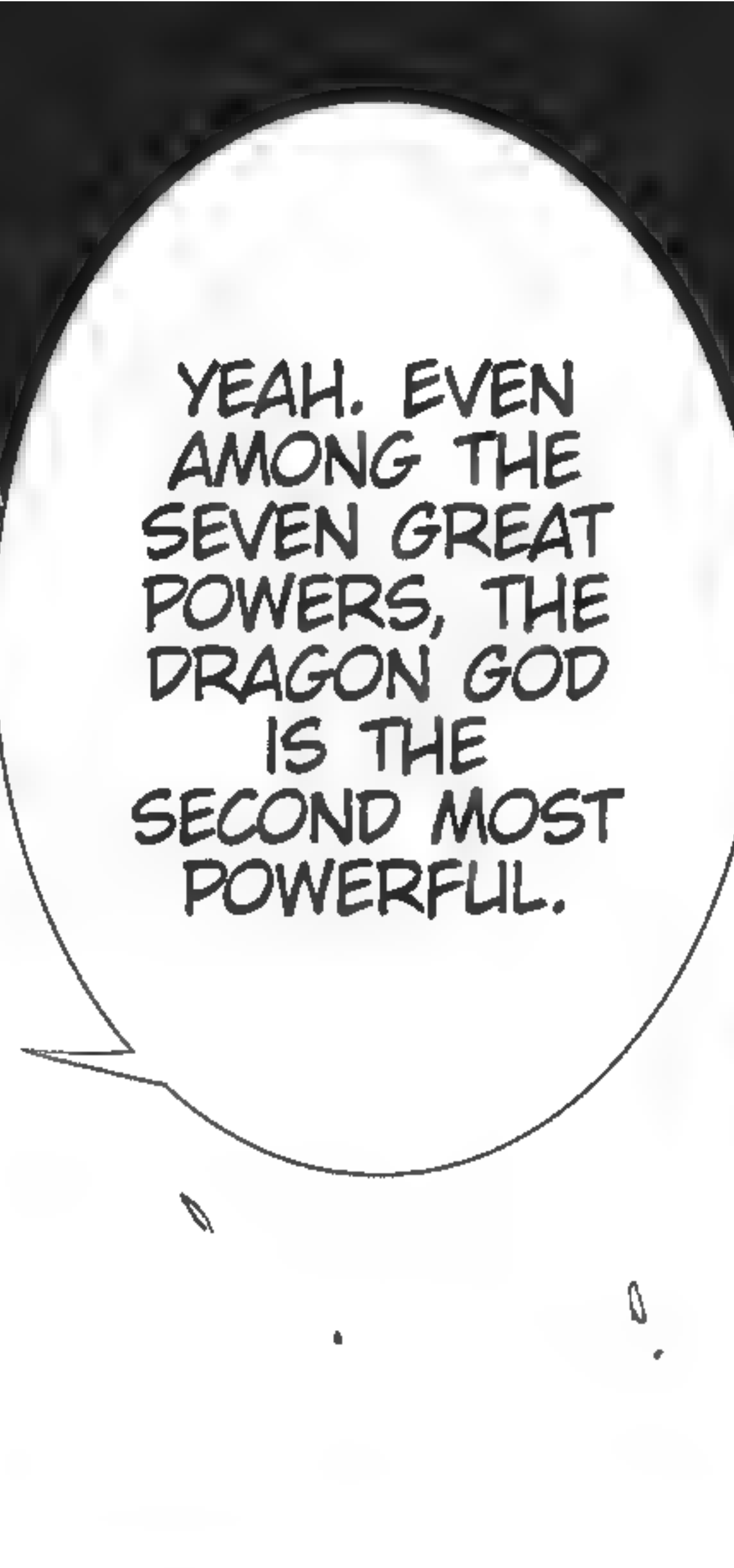


HEY, RUIJERD?






YOU
MIGHT
EVEN
SAY
YOU'RE
LUCKY
JUST
TO BE
ALIVE.



YEAH. EVEN
AMONG THE
SEVEN GREAT
POWERS, THE
DRAGON GOD
IS THE
SECOND MOST
POWERFUL.



THEY
SURE ARE
STRONG,
AREN'T
THEY? I
WAS
HELPLESS
AGAINST
HIM.



I'M SORRY.
THIS ONLY
HAPPENED
BECAUSE I
SPOKE TO
HIM.



YES,
BUT...




IF I
SEE HIM
AGAIN,
I'LL
RUN AS
FAST AS
I CAN.



LUCKY,
HUH...?
BUT IT'S
TRUE.
I CAN'T
BEAT HIM.
IT'S
IMPOS-
SIBLE!



RUDEUS.



WHO OR
WHAT IS
"HITOGAMI"?

ORSTED
ONLY WANTED
TO KILL YOU
AFTER YOU
SPOKE THAT
NAME.

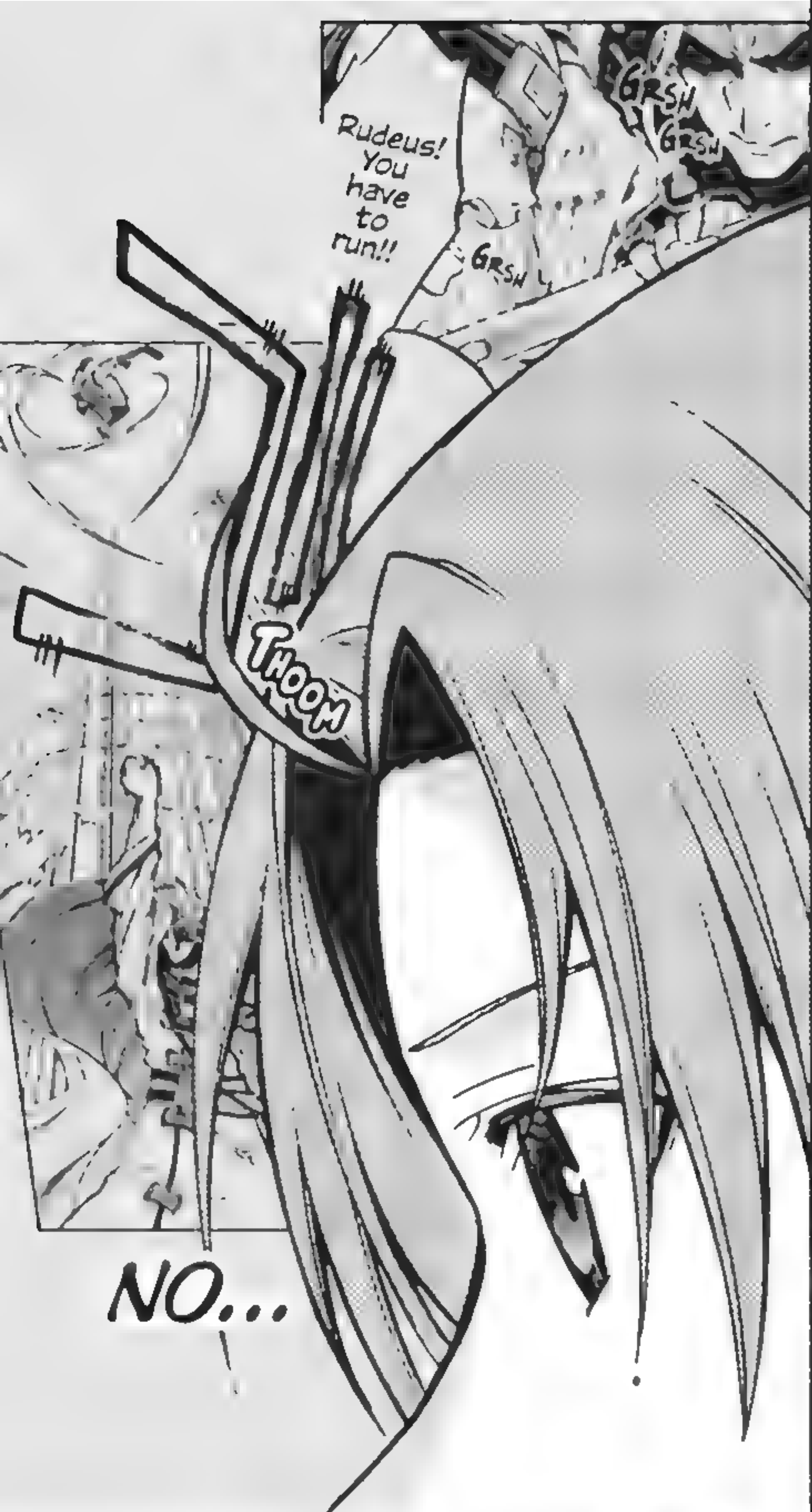


WHAT
ARE YOU
HIDING?



HITOGAMI...
IT ALL
COMES
BACK TO
HIM.





Rudeus!
You
have
to
run!!

GRSH

THOOM

NO...



SHOULD
I TELL
HIM, OR
NOT...?

GLENCH



BUT I
HONESTLY
HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
HIS
AGENDA
IS. SO I
DIDN'T
WANT TO
BURDEN
RUIJERD
WITH IT.

IT'S NOT
LIKE
HITOGAMI
TOLD ME
NOT TO
TALK
ABOUT
HIM.



I
SEE.


CRACKLE

THE
TRUTH
IS...

I'LL
TELL
HIM
EVERY-
THING!

I'LL
TELL
HIM!

AFTER
EVERYTHING
I'VE PUT
THEM
THROUGH,
I DON'T
WANT TO
HIDE
ANYTHING
AGAIN.




THIS
EXPLAINS
A LOT
OF THE
STRANGER
ACTIONS
YOU
TOOK.

THINGS
MAKE
MORE
SENSE
NOW.

EVER
SINCE THE
DISPLACEMENT,
SOMEONE
CALLED
HITOGAMI HAS
APPEARED IN
YOUR DREAMS
AND OFFERED
YOU ADVICE.

AND YOU
TOOK THAT
ADVICE...
CORRECT?



THE DRAGON
GOD IS UNDER
SOME KIND OF
CURSE THAT
HITOGAMI CAN'T
PERCEIVE. IT
SHROUDS HIM.
THAT'S WHY HE
COULDN'T
PREDICT OUR
PATHS WOULD
CROSS.

IN FACT,
THE
DRAGON
GOD IS
AFFLICTED
BY
SEVERAL
CURSES.

HE'S AN
EVIL MAN
WHO'S
TRYING TO
DESTROY
THE WORLD.
THAT'S
WHAT
HITOGAMI
SAID, AT
LEAST.

WHISPER...

YES...
AND TO
BE HONEST,
HITOGAMI
APPEARED IN
THE DREAM
I JUST
HAD, AS
WELL.



Please, hold on a second !!

Hey!

APPARENTLY, THE CURSE DOESN'T WORK ON ME SINCE I'M FROM ANOTHER WORLD.



IT'S BECAUSE OF THE "CURSE OF THE PARIAH."

HITOGAMI ALSO EXPLAINED WHY ERIS AND RUIJERD WERE SO TERRIFIED.



I CAN'T READ HITOGAMI AT ALL.

FROM THE MOMENT HITOGAMI CONTACTED ME, I WAS SUSPICIOUS. I WONDERED IF HE'D GO AND MAKE YOU DO SOMETHING, RUIJERD.



ON THE ONE HAND, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE...

SO THE DRAGON GOD AND HITOGAMI ARE AT ODDS WITH ONE ANOTHER.



THERE'S NO WAY TO TELL IF WE CAN TRUST HIM.

SOUNDS LIKE IT.

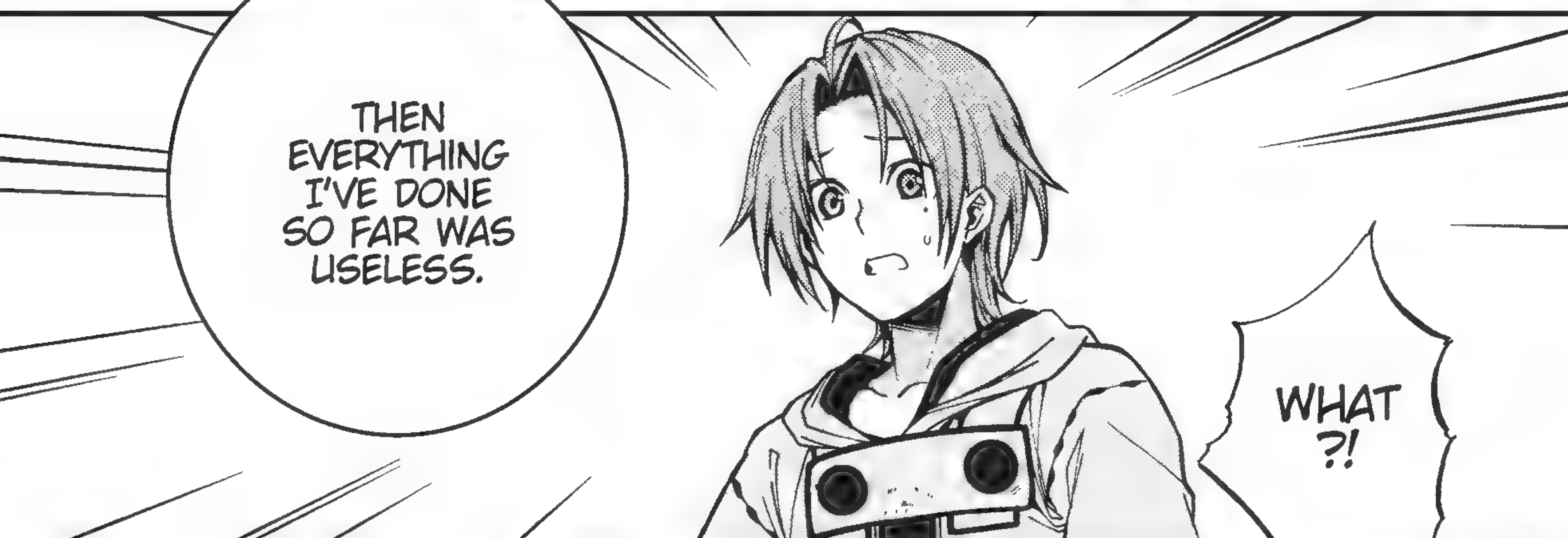




IS
THAT
SO
...?

AND THE
CURSE WAS
INHERITED
BY ALL
THOSE WITH
GREEN
HAIR, LIKE
LAPLACE
HAD.

LAPLACE
TRANSFERRED
HIS OWN
CURSE TO HIS
SPEAR, AND
THEN LEFT IT
WITH THE
SUPERD
PEOPLES.



THEN
EVERYTHING
I'VE DONE
SO FAR WAS
USELESS.

WHAT
?!



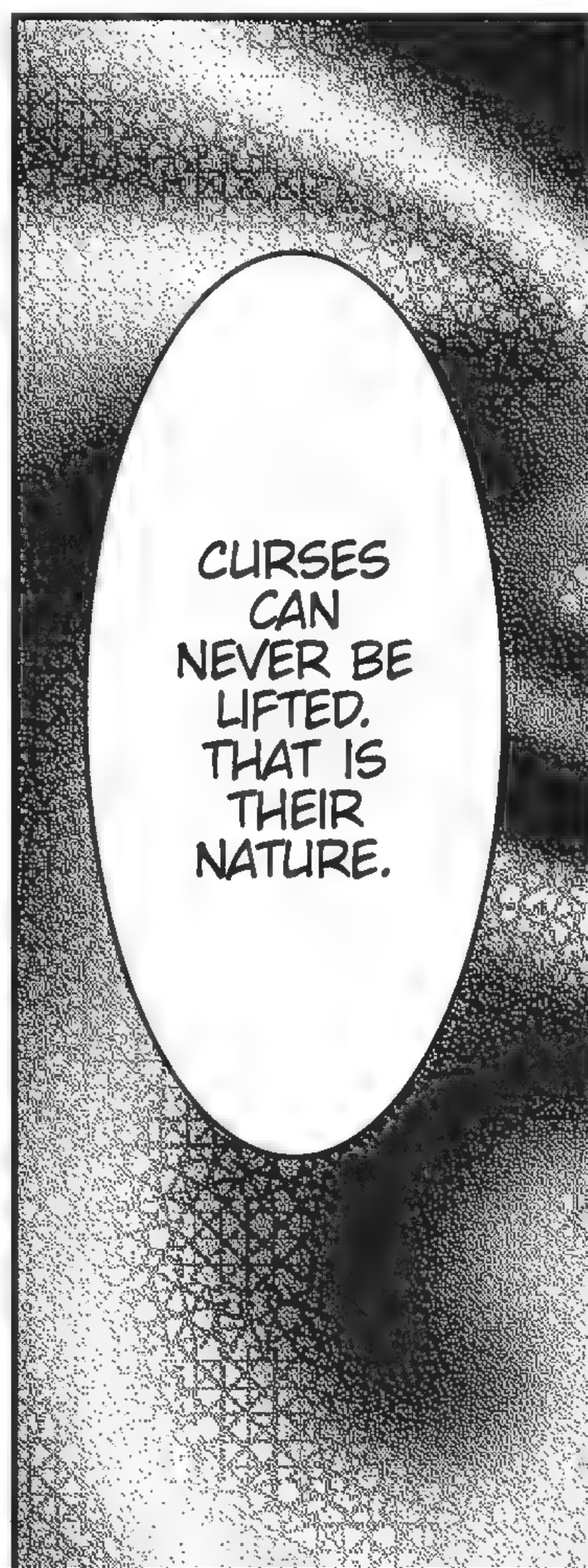
BUT
WAIT!

.....



NEVER
HEARD
OF A
CURSE
BEFORE
THAT
COULD BE
TRANS-
FERRED,
BUT...

IT MUST
BE TRUE.
A GOD
SAID SO.



CURSES
CAN
NEVER BE
LIFTED.
THAT IS
THEIR
NATURE.



HITOGAMI
SAID
SOME-
THING
ELSE.

THE
CURSE
OF THE
SPEAR
WASN'T A
NORMAL
CURSE.
OVER
TIME, IT'S
GROWN
WEAKER.

AND
NOW IT'S
ALMOST
VANISHED.



BUT IT
ALL
DEPENDS
ON YOUR
EFFORTS.

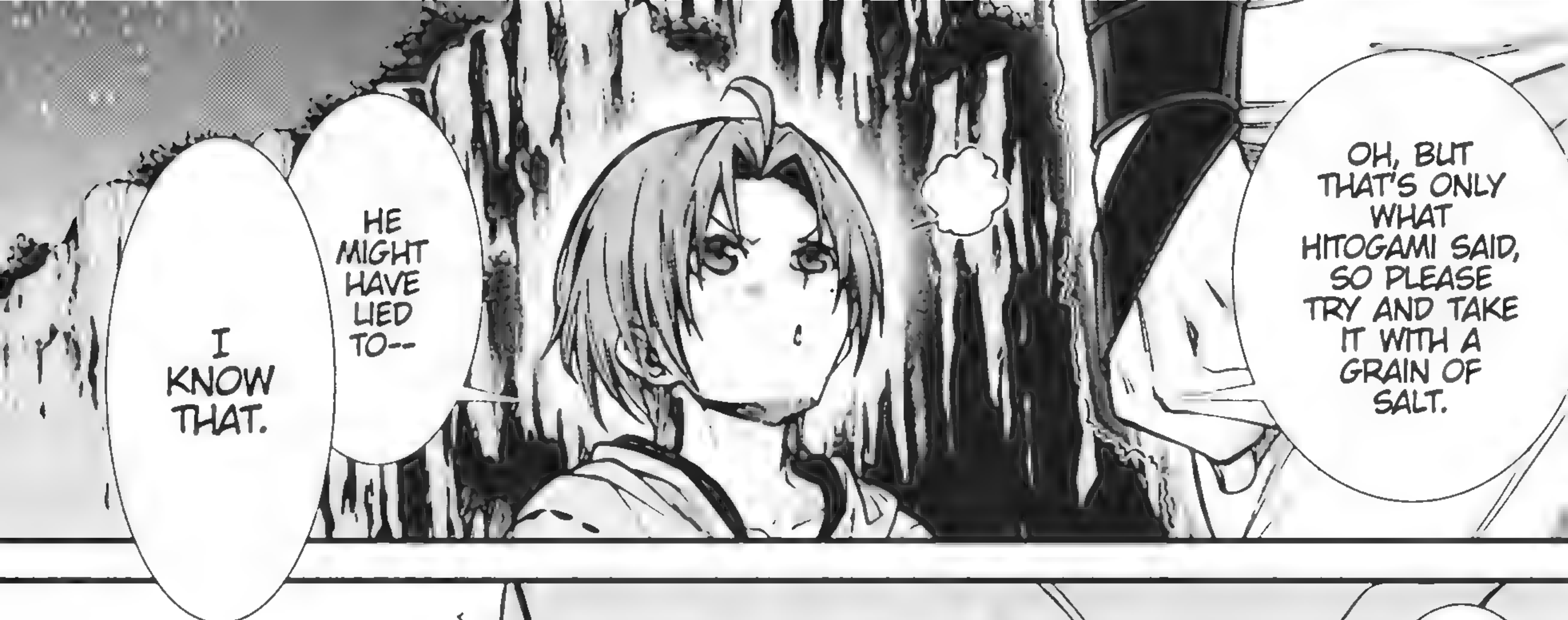
AND
THAT THE
SUPERDS'
GOOD NAME
CAN BE
RESTORED...



YES.
HITOGAMI
ALSO SAID
YOUR
CURSE IN
PARTICULAR
HAS WORN
EXTREMELY
THIN,
BECAUSE
YOU CUT
OFF YOUR
HAIR.

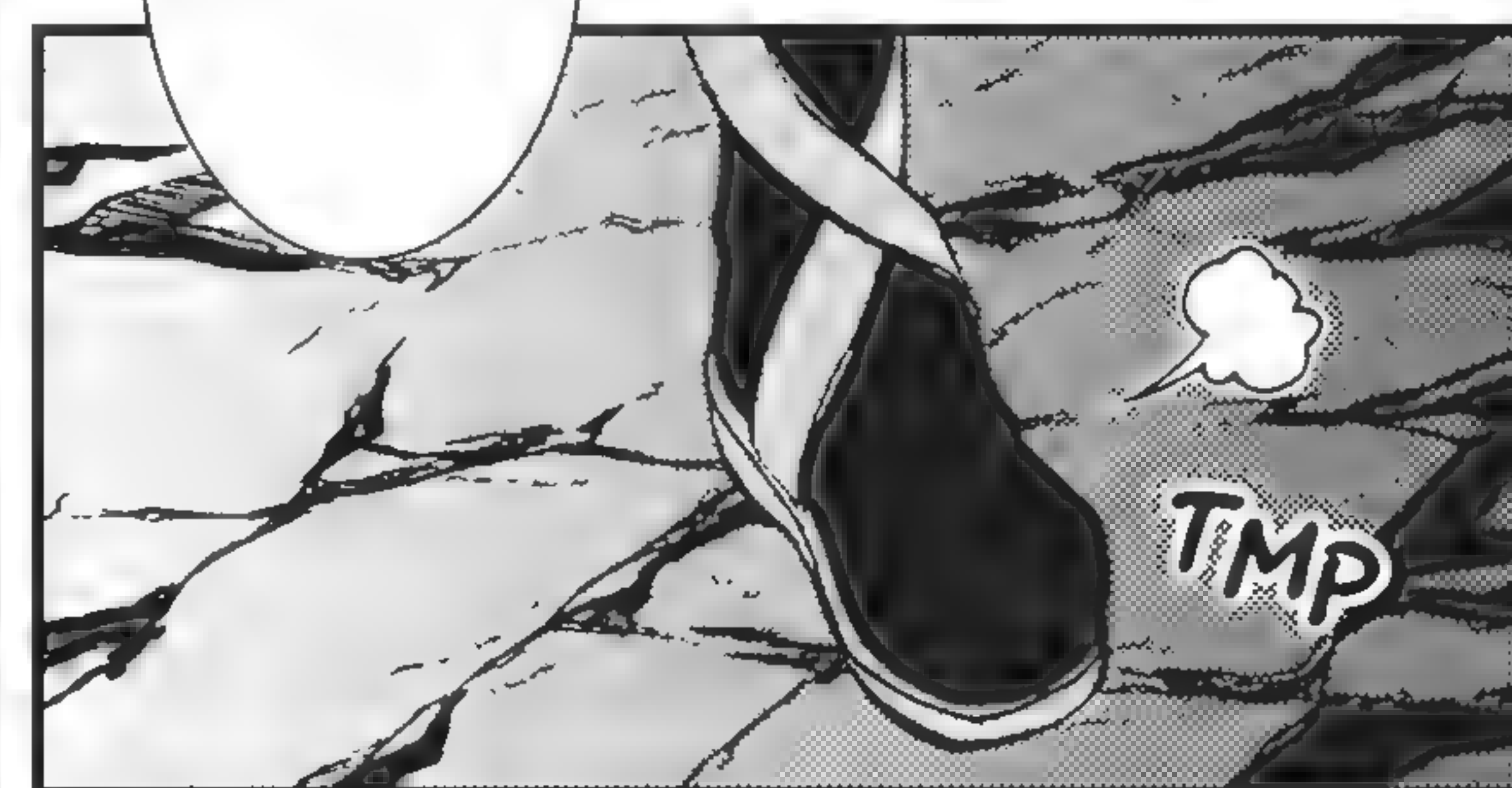
WHAT?!
IS THAT
TRUE?!

LURGH





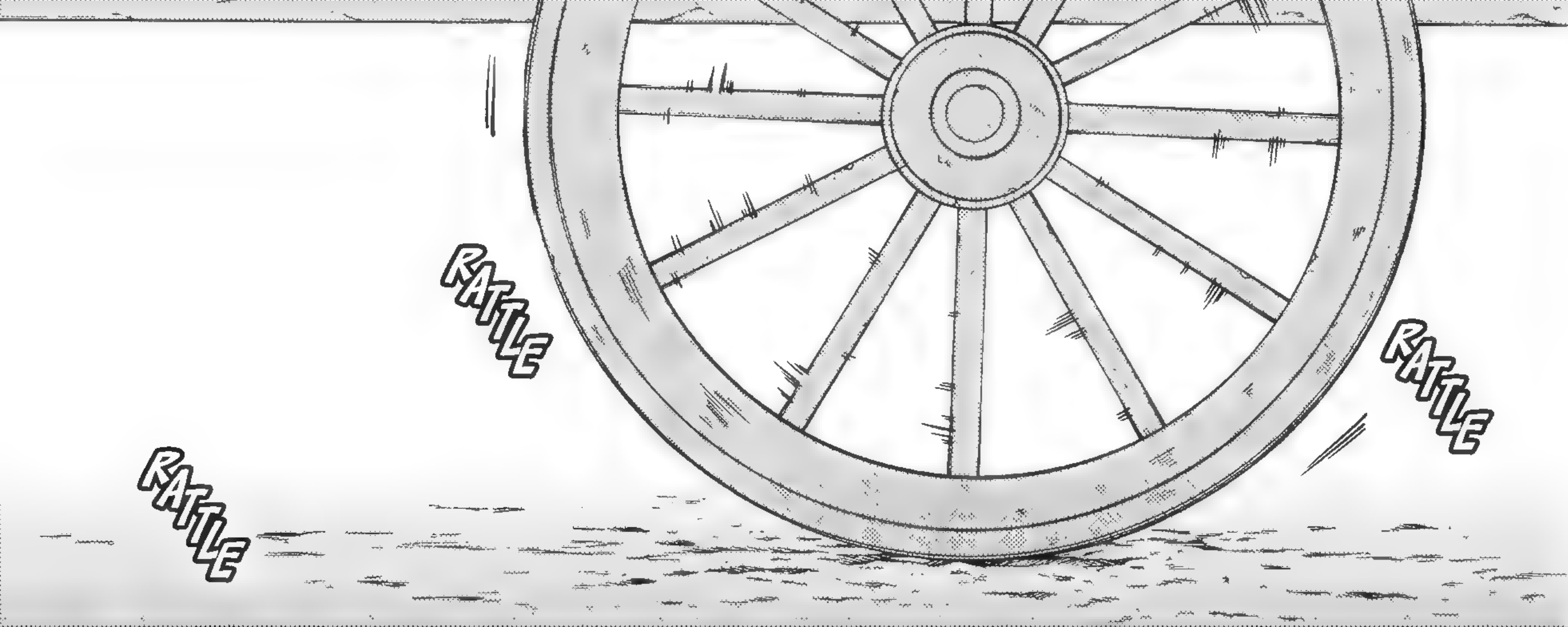
YEAH...



Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation





CHAPTER 49

THE END OF THE JOURNEY

AREN'T
YOU A
LITTLE
CLOSE
...?

RATTLE

Nuzzle
Nuzzle

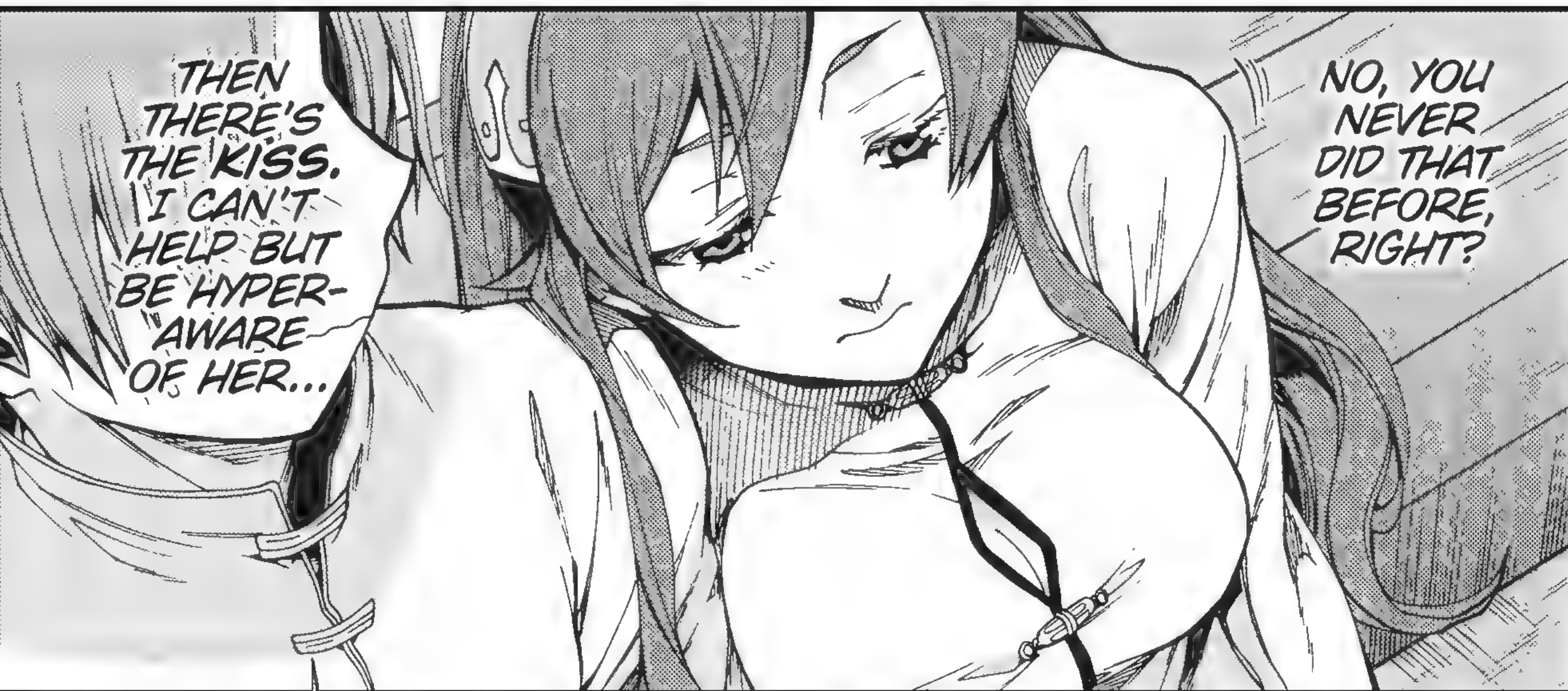
RATTLE

RATTLE

RATTLE

YOU
THINK?





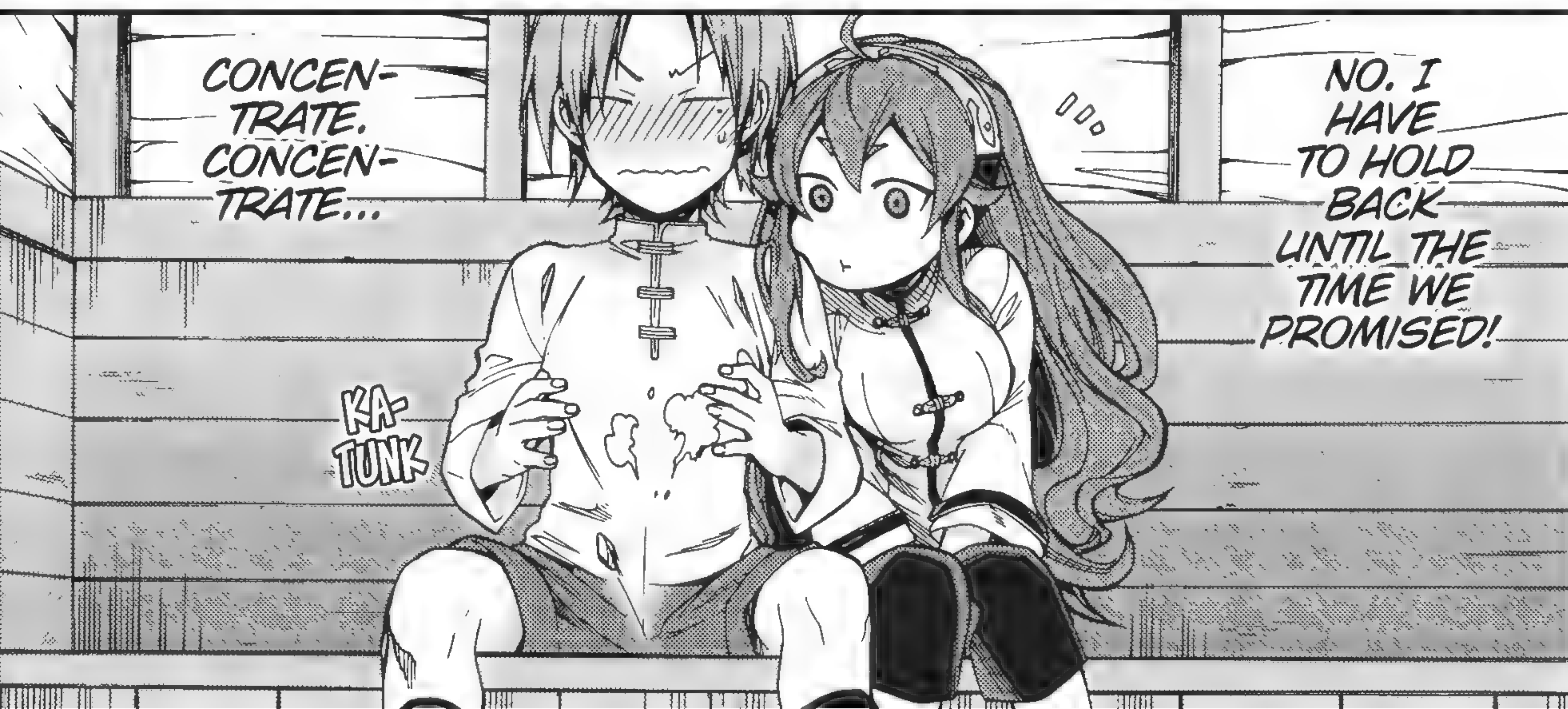
THEN
THERE'S
THE KISS.
I CAN'T
HELP BUT
BE HYPER-
AWARE
OF HER...

NO, YOU
NEVER
DID THAT
BEFORE,
RIGHT?



A
KISS!

BOOM!



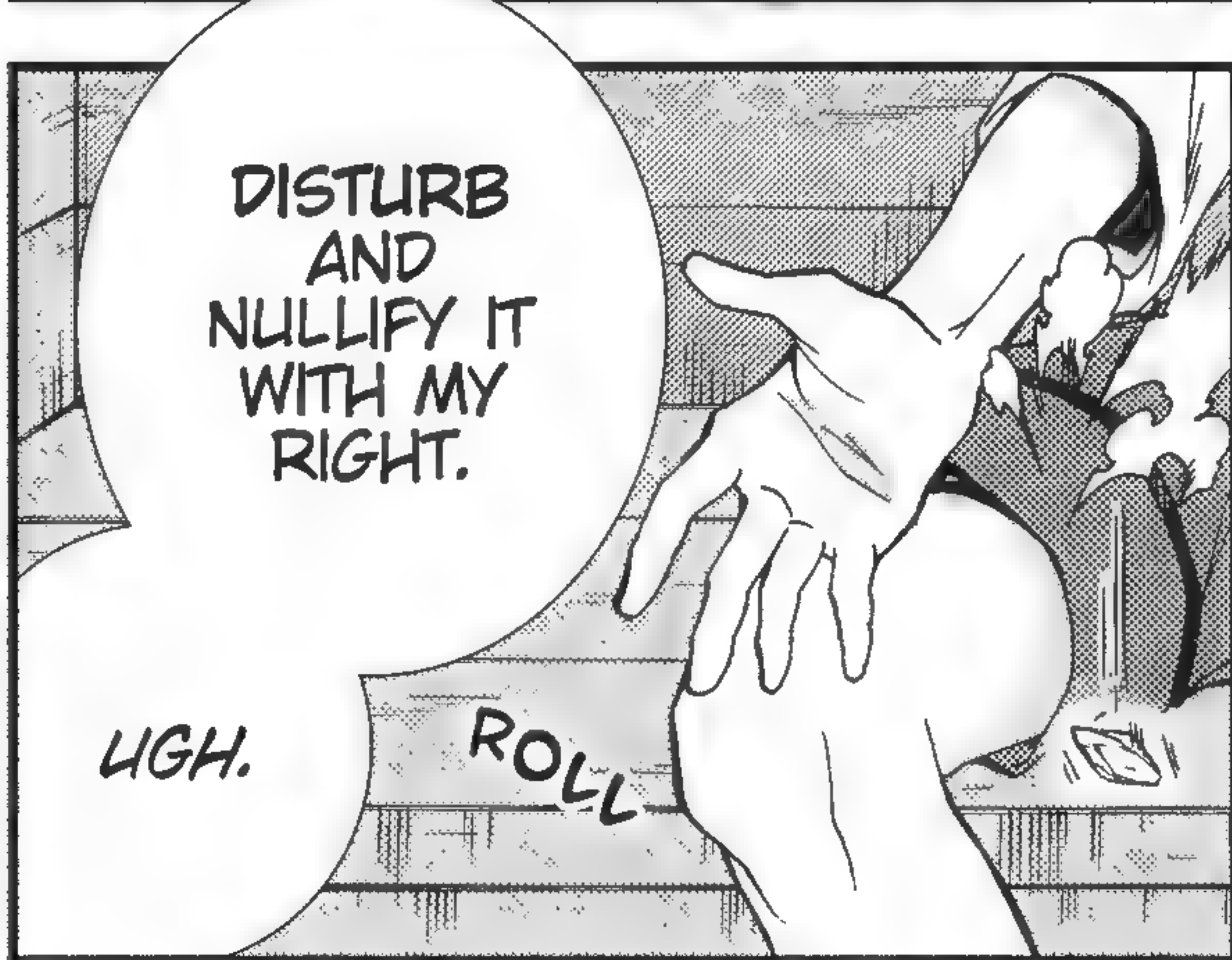
CONCEN-
TRATE.
CONCEN-
TRATE...

NO. I
HAVE
TO HOLD
BACK
UNTIL THE
TIME WE
PROMISED!

KA-
TUNK



CAST
MAGIC
WITH MY
LEFT
HAND...



DISTURB
AND
NULLIFY IT
WITH MY
RIGHT.

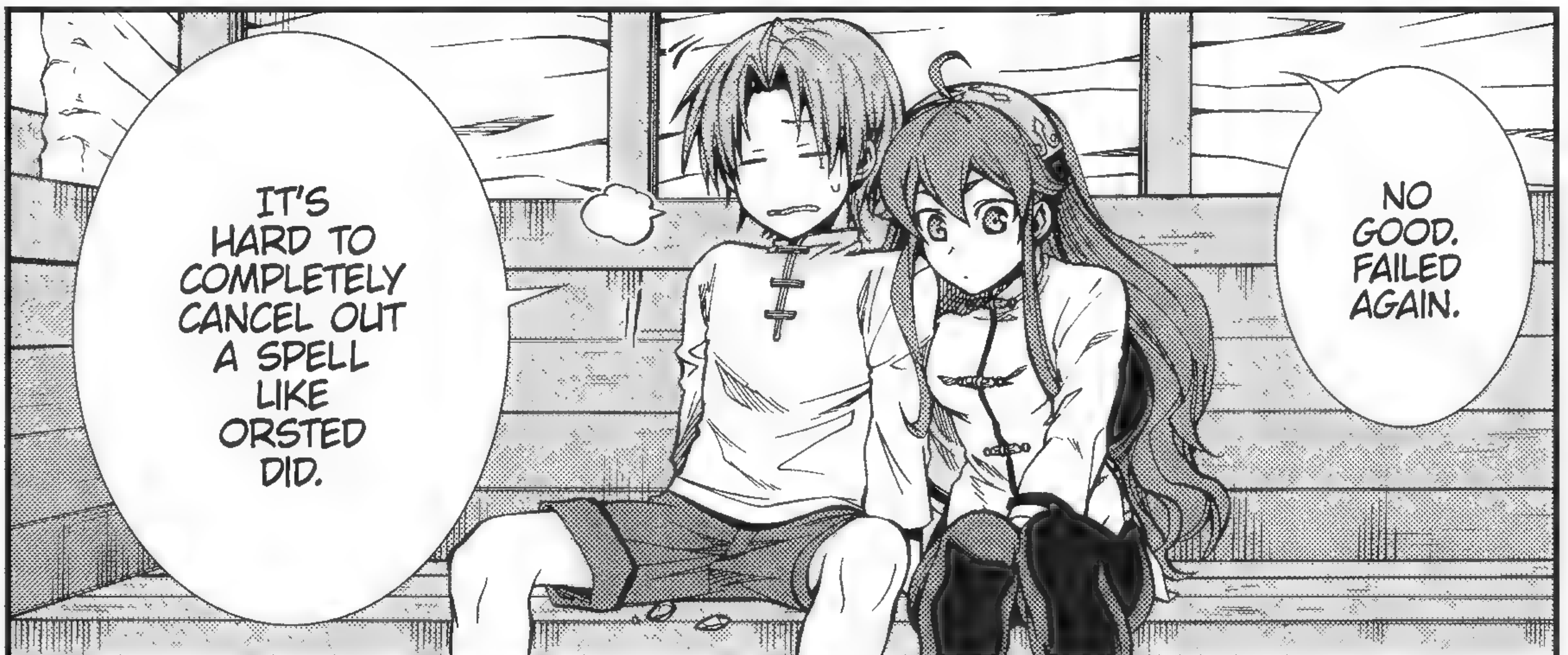
UGH.

ROLL



I THOUGHT
MAYBE I
COULD TRY
TO COPY
ORSTED'S
TECHNIQUE.

HEY,
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING
THERE?



IT'S
HARD TO
COMPLETELY
CANCEL OUT
A SPELL
LIKE
ORSTED
DID.

NO
GOOD.
FAILED
AGAIN.



THEN WHAT
IS IT THAT
TIPS THE
BALANCE?
THERE MUST
BE SOME
PRINCIPLE OR
LAW THAT
DECIDES THE
DIFFERENCE.

HMN...

PRETTY
SURE THAT
ANTI-MAGIC
DOESN'T
HAVE MUCH
USE
UNLESS
YOU CAN
ACTUALLY
CANCEL OUT
A SPELL.



SHE
SURE
IS
CLOSE!

I
GUESS
YOU
COULD
CALL
THIS RE-
SEARCH?

WHEN
HE TOOK
MY MAGIC
AWAY, I
COULDN'T
DO ANY-
THING.

WHY
ARE YOU
TRYING
TO
LEARN IT
IN THE
FIRST
PLACE?

HMM...
BUT...

THE
DREAM
GROWS!

IF I ISOLATE
THAT FACTOR
AND FOCUS
ON PURGING
JUST THE KEY
ELEMENT OF A
SPELL, MAYBE
I CAN PULL
IT OFF.



MAYBE
WE CAN
ESCAPE.

THIS
WAY, IF
WE SEE
ORSTED
AGAIN...



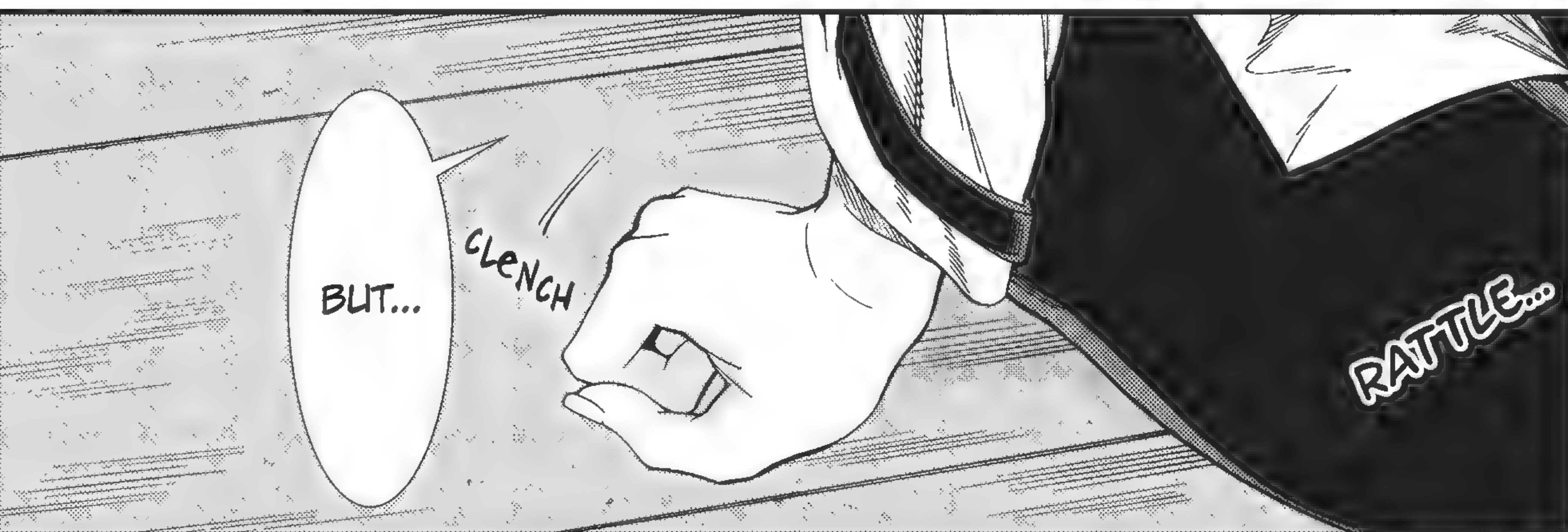


WE ALL
GOT
TROUNCED.
IT WAS AN
UNLUCKY
MATCH-UP.

IF IT
BOTHERS
YOU THAT
ORSTED
DEFEATED
YOU SO
EASILY...WELL,
YOU'RE NOT
ALONE.

RATTLE

RATTLE



BUT...

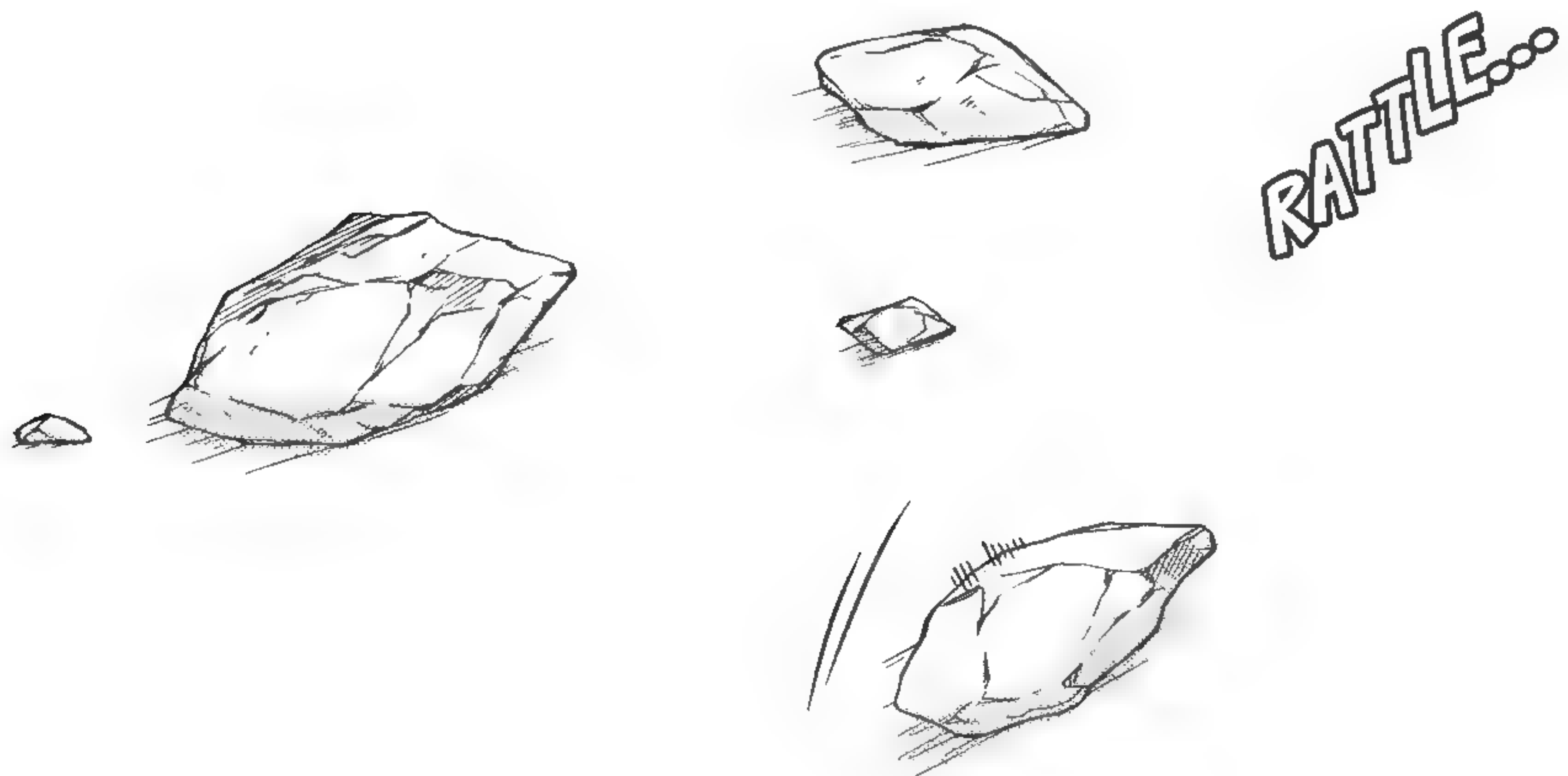
CLENCH

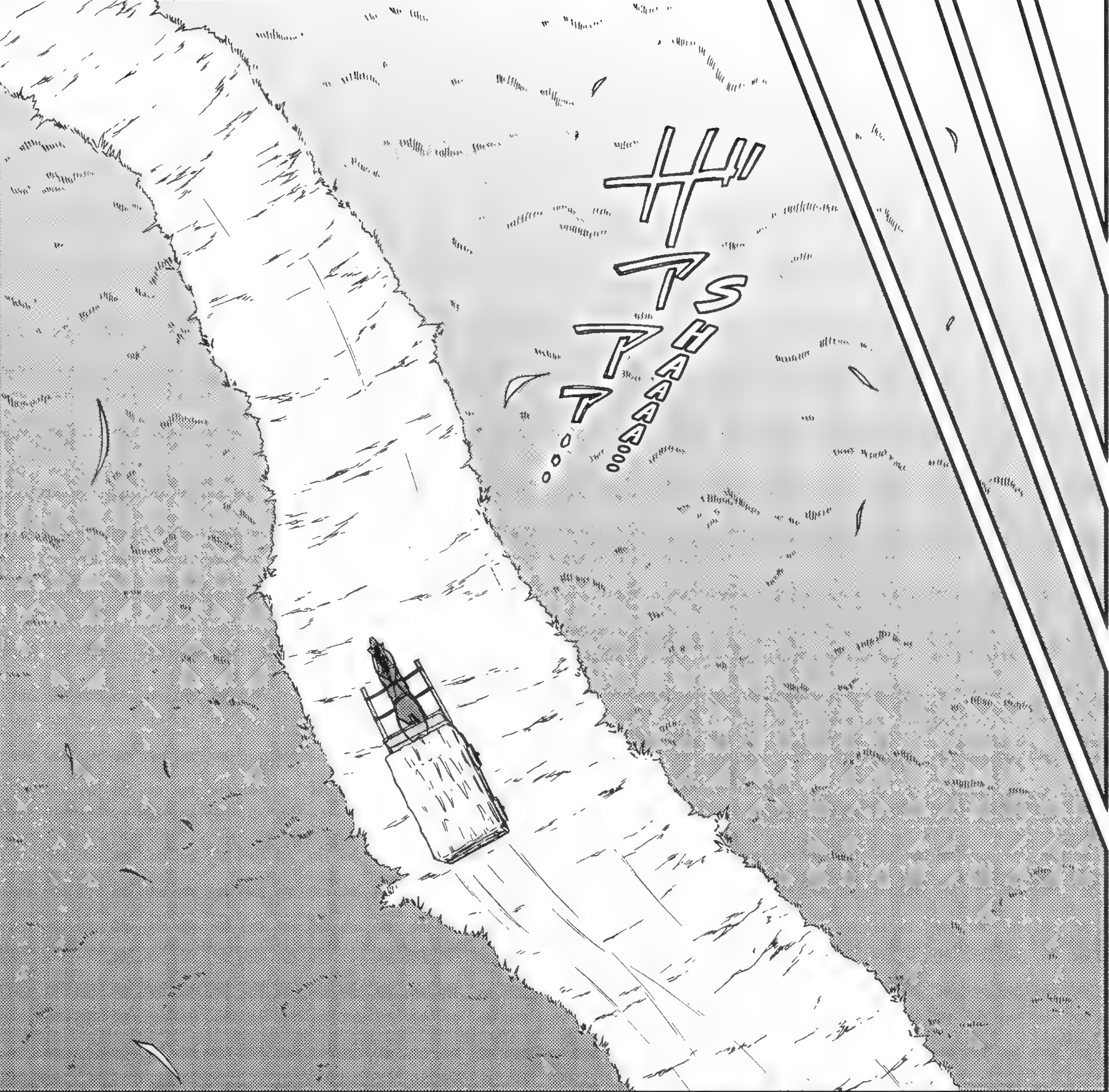
RATTLE...



AS LONG
AS YOU
KEEP AT
IT, YOU'LL
GET
STRONGER.

YOU'RE
STILL
YOUNG,
ERIS.





THIS IS
WHAT'S
BECOME
OF THE
FITTOA
REGION.

THERE'S
NOTHING
HERE.



BUT THERE
REALLY ISN'T
ANYTHING
HERE. THIS IS
THE LEGACY OF
THE MAGICAL
CALAMITY.

PAUL
TOLD
ME A
LITTLE
ABOUT
WHAT
HAP-
PENED...



EVERY-
THING
WILL
MAKE
SENSE
WHEN
WE GET
THERE.

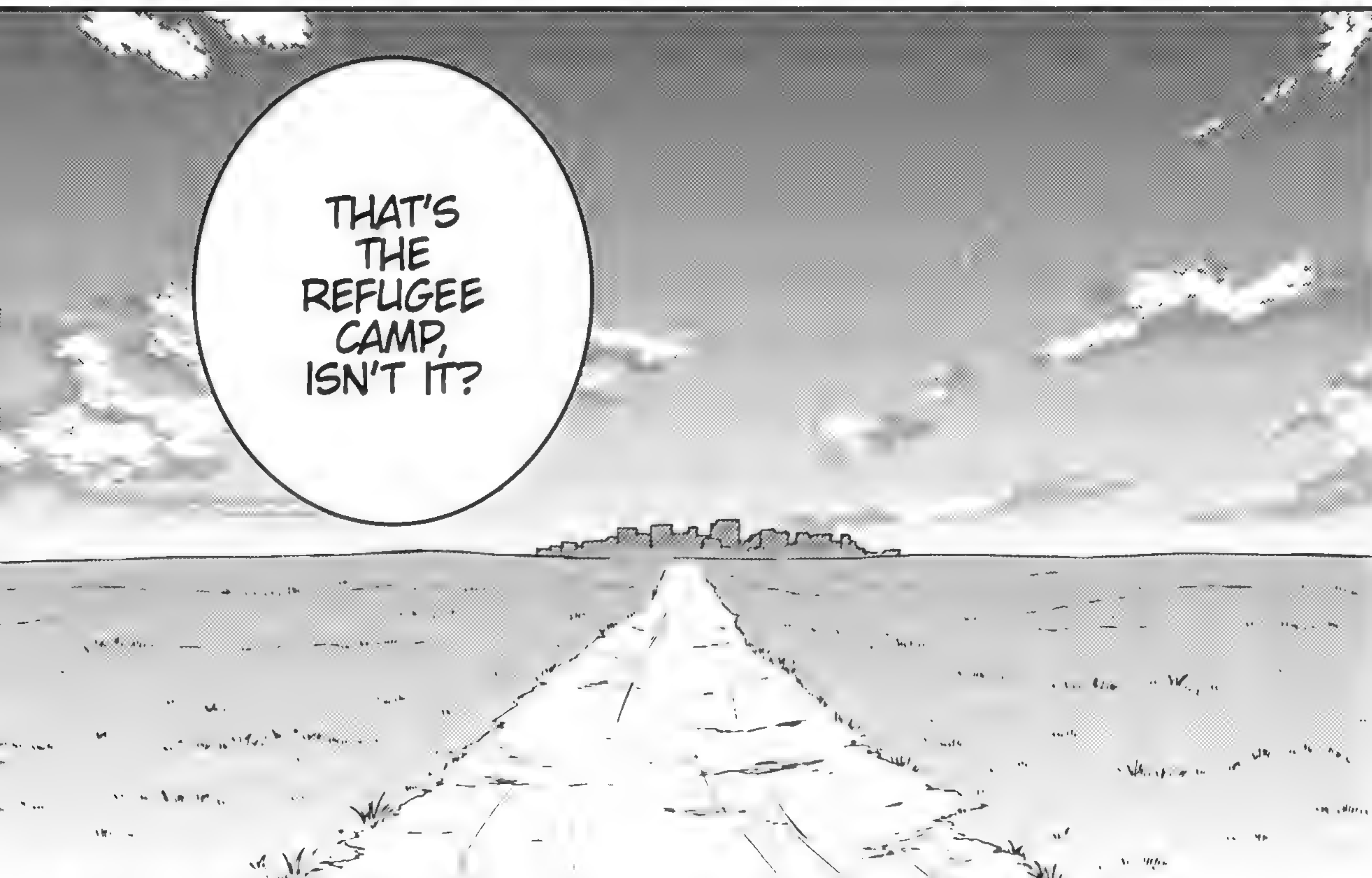
DON'T
GIVE UP
HOPE.
THERE'S
STILL A
REFUGEE
CAMP.

OH!



NO!

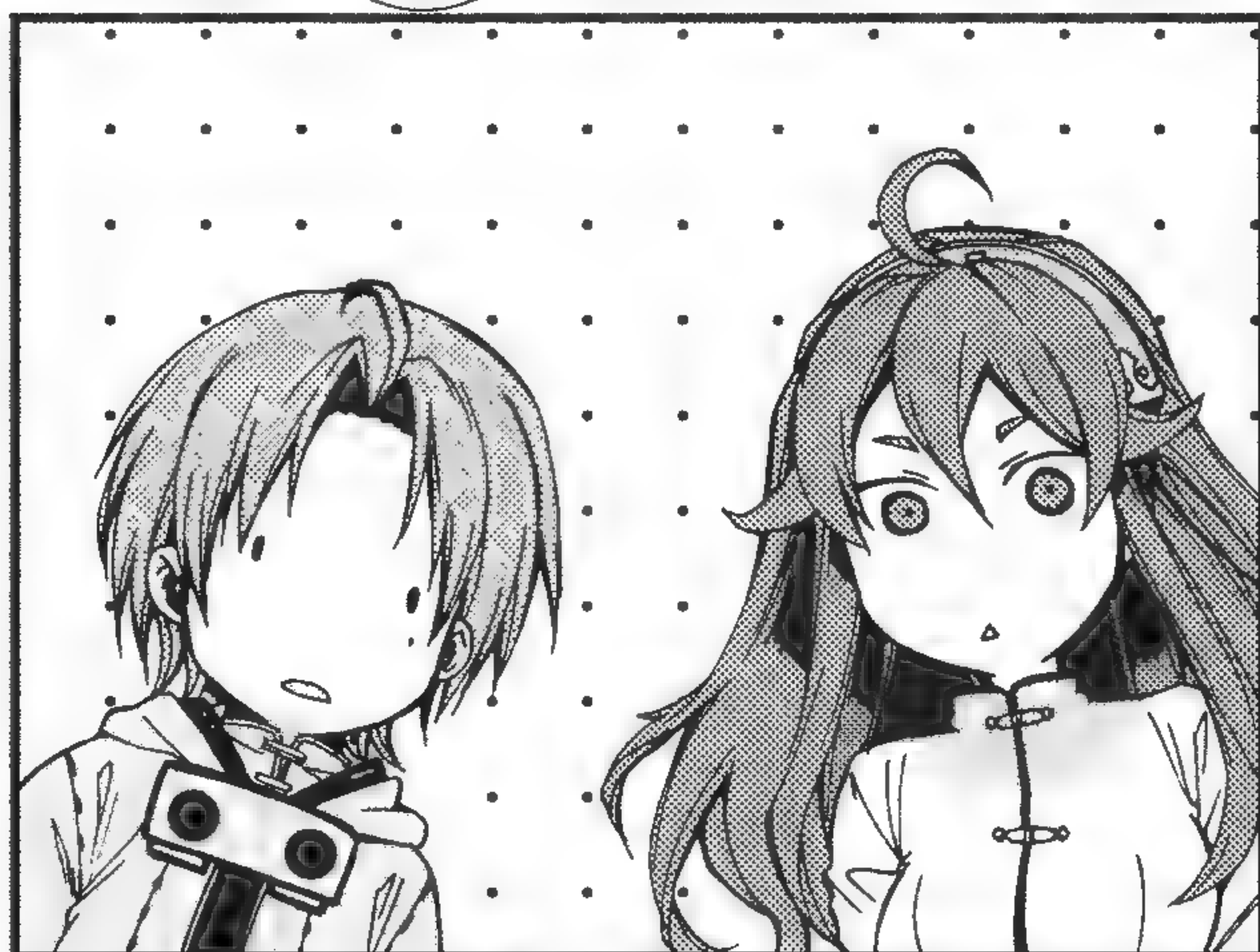






IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?

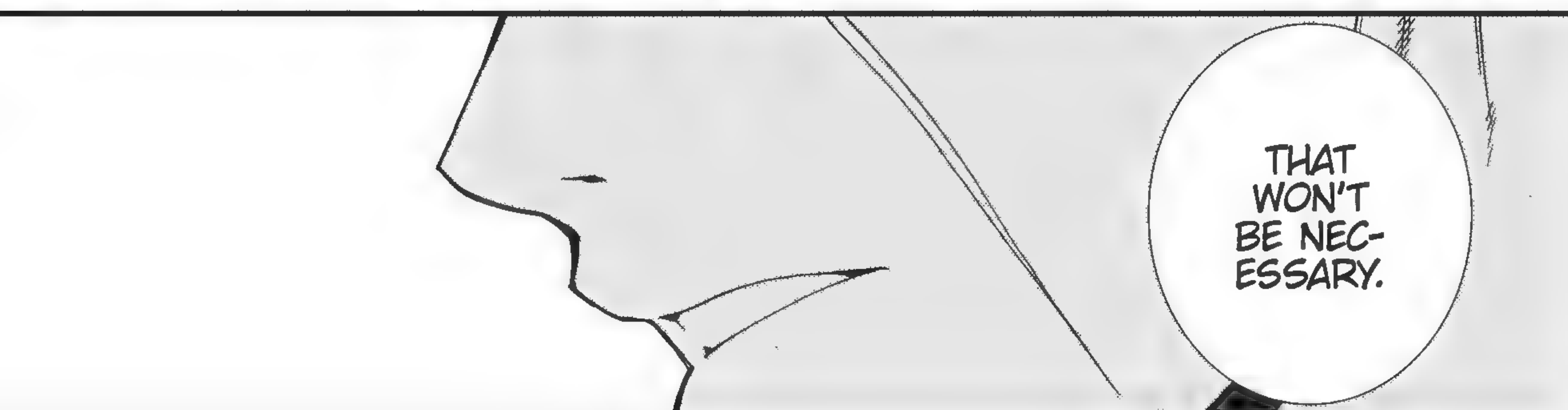
MISTER RUIJERD?



THIS IS WHERE I SAY GOODBYE.



WHAT?!

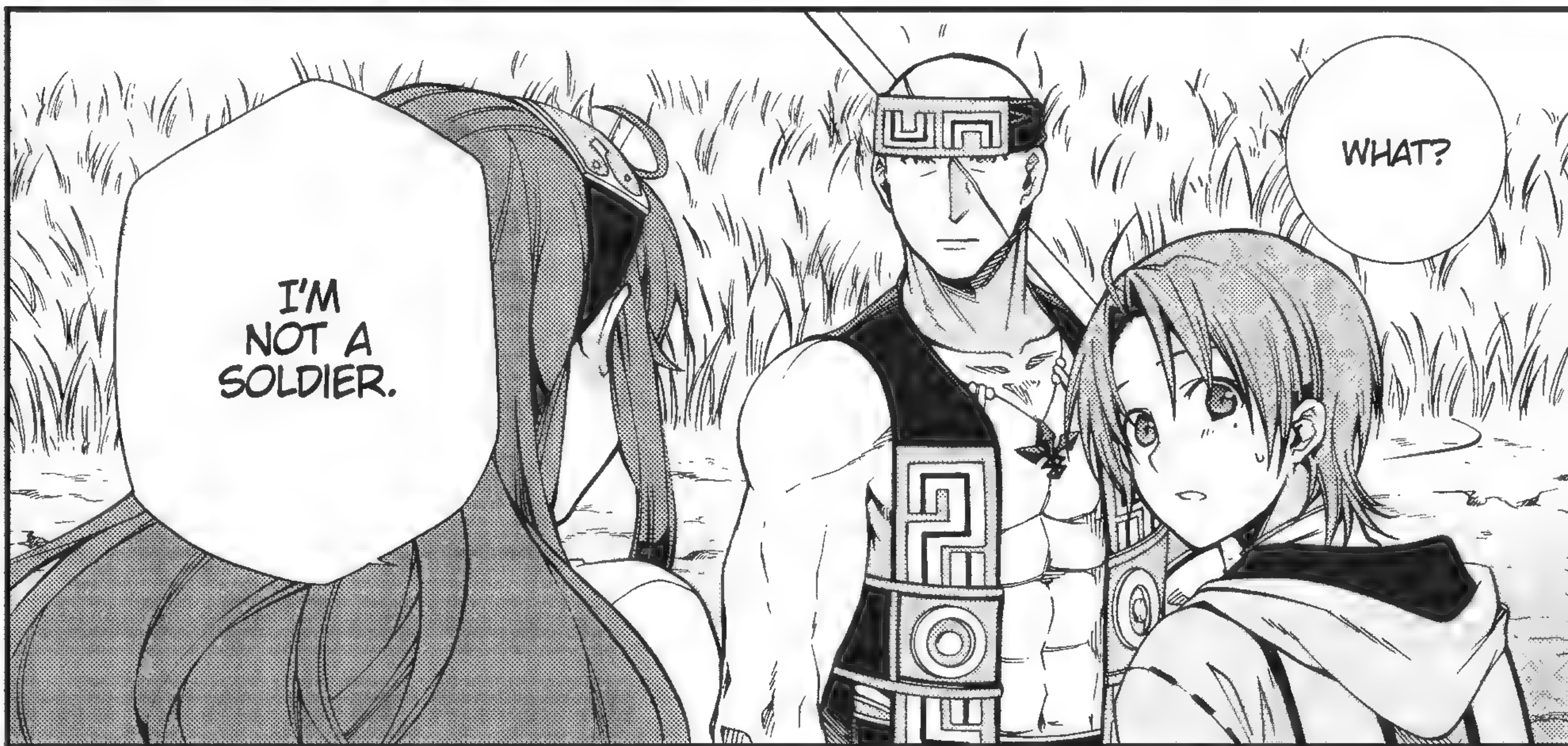




THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.



N
G
H
...



I'M
NOT A
SOLDIER.

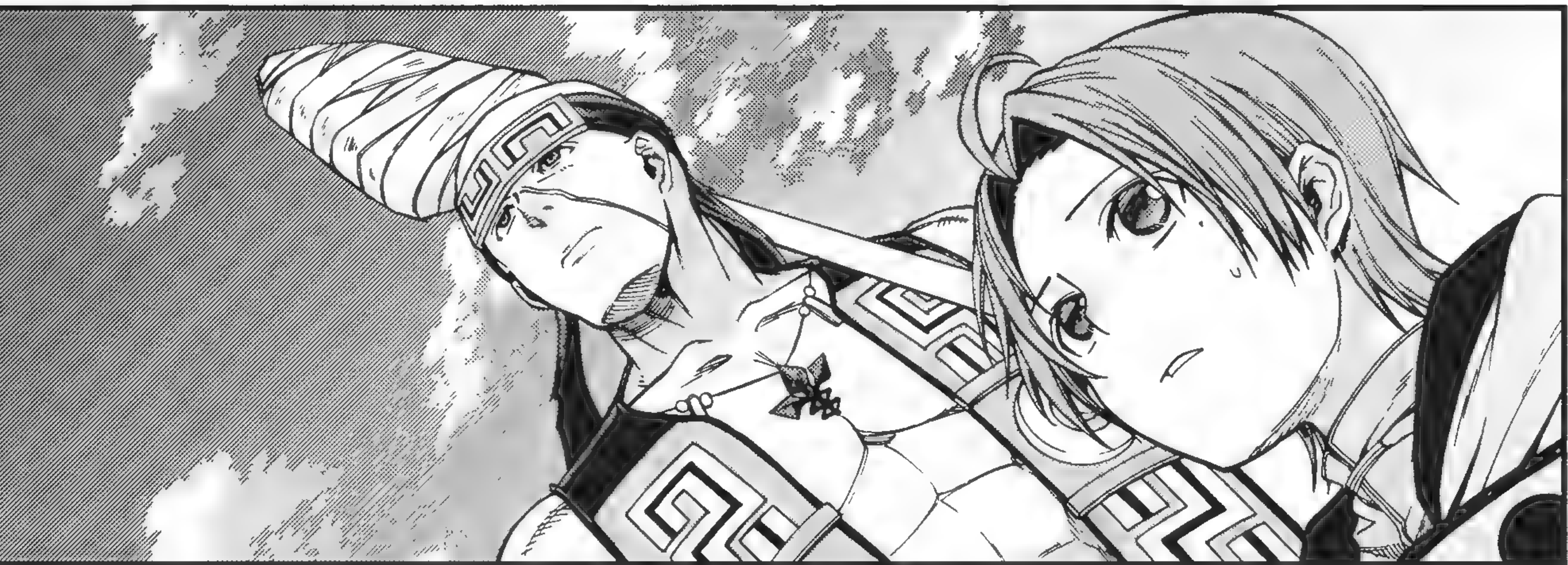
WHAT?



I HAVE
NO IDEA
WHAT I'D
DO IF I
SAW HIM
AGAIN,
LIKE
RUDELIS
DID.




AFTER
ALL, I
COULDN'T
STAND
UP TO
ORSTED.





YOU HAVE TALENT.



ERIS. YOU
FOUGHT
AGAINST
ONE WHO
HOLDS THE
MANTLE OF
A GOD.

THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.


NOT
AT
ALL
...!

SNIFFLE...



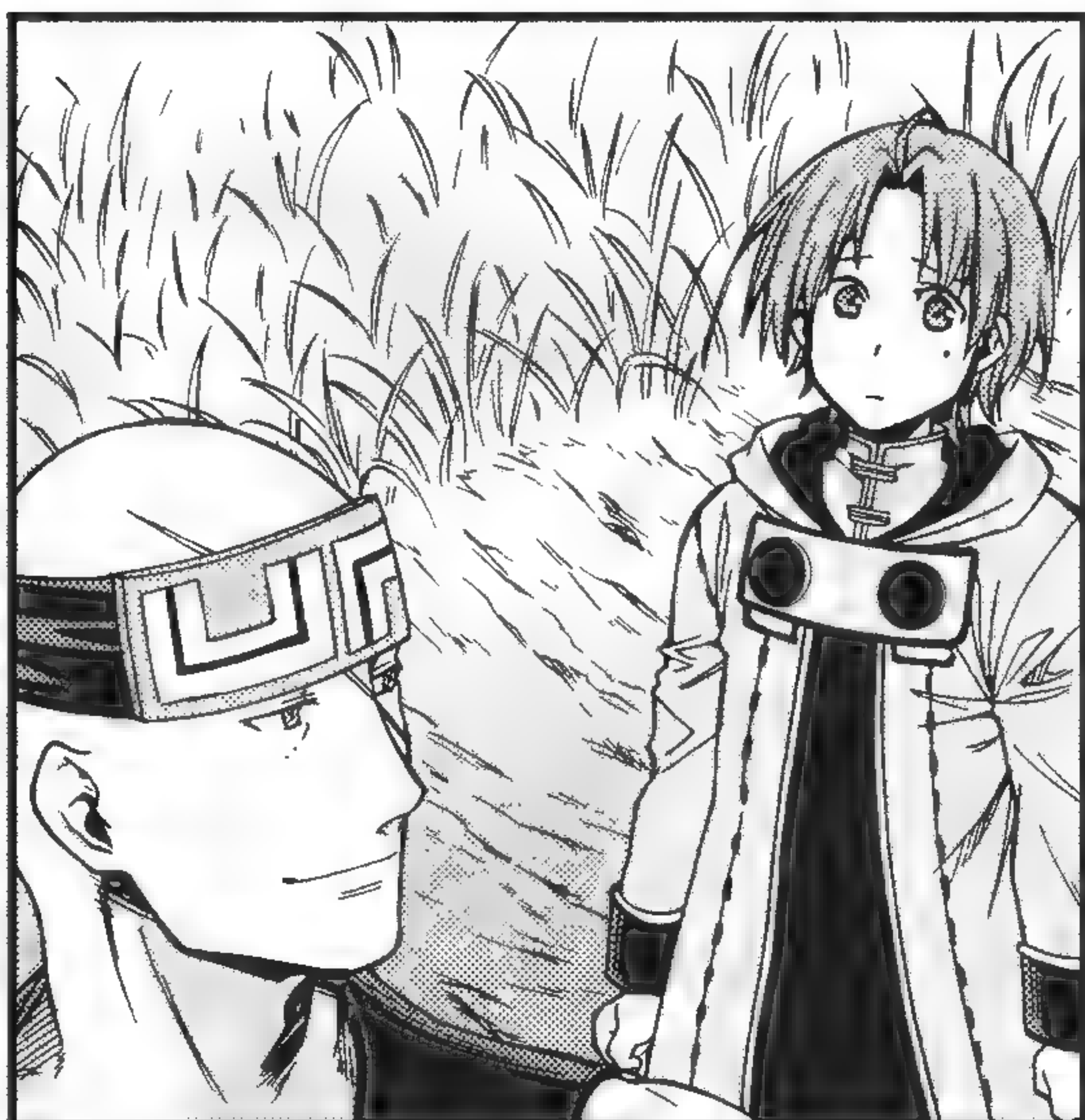
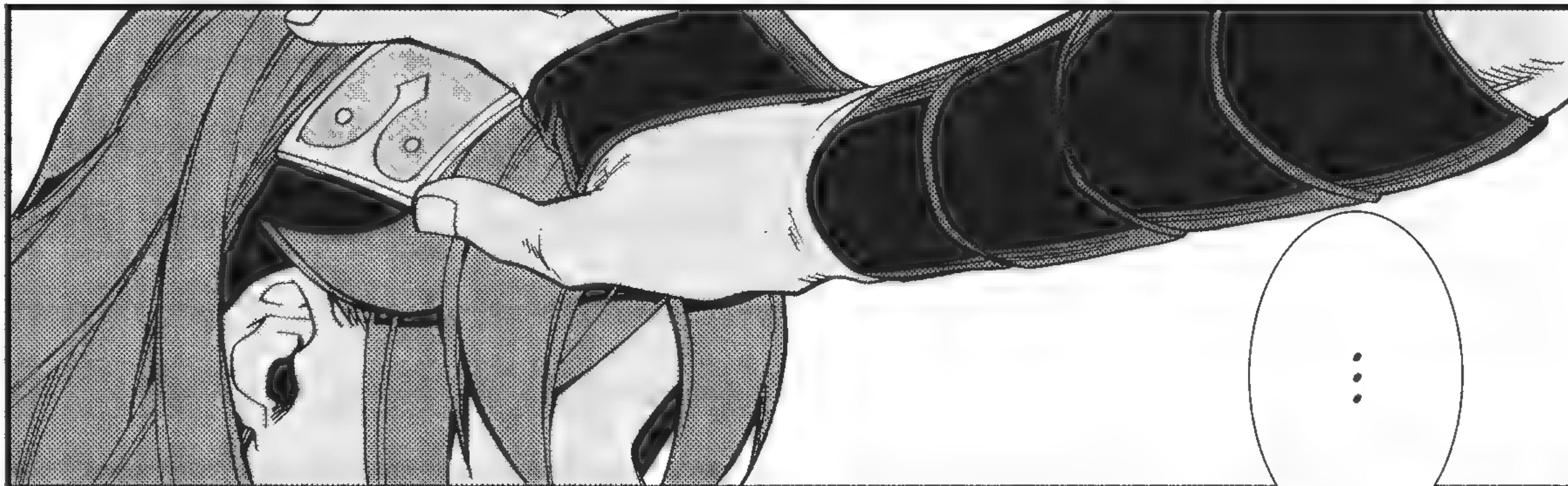
GASP!

WHAT'S
MORE, YOU
LIVED. DON'T
YOU REALIZE
YOUR OWN
ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS?



STAND TALL.
HOLD YOUR
HEAD UP.
AND FACE
THE WORLD
WITH PRIDE.

YOU'RE
A TRUE
WARRIOR.



I KNOW
HIS GOAL
WAS TO
RETURN US
TO OUR
HOMELAND...

RUIJERD...



BUT
SOMEHOW,
I THOUGHT
WE'D
ALWAYS BE
TOGETHER.



IF I
ASKED,
HE'D
PROBABLY
STAY...



BUT
NO.



WE
SHOULDN'T
KEEP
RELYING
ON HIM
FOREVER.

WE
WOULDN'T
HAVE MADE
IT HERE IN
JUST THREE
YEARS
WITHOUT
YOUR HELP,
RUIJERD.



HE
ACKNOWL-
EDGED US
AS FELLOW
WARRIORS.







YET IN
ALL THAT
TIME, I
NEVER GOT
SO MUCH
AS A STEP
CLOSER TO
MY GOAL.

THE
WAR WAS
ALREADY
FOUR
HUNDRED
YEARS
GONE.

I
COULDN'T
DO IT
ALONE.

YOU ARE
THE ONE
WHO GAVE
ME HOPE,
RUDELIS.



I REALLY
DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING
MYSELF.

BUT...


I WAS
JUST
REPEATING
SOMETHING
HITOGAMI
SAID.



DON'T
YOU EVER
BOW
YOUR
HEAD TO
ME.

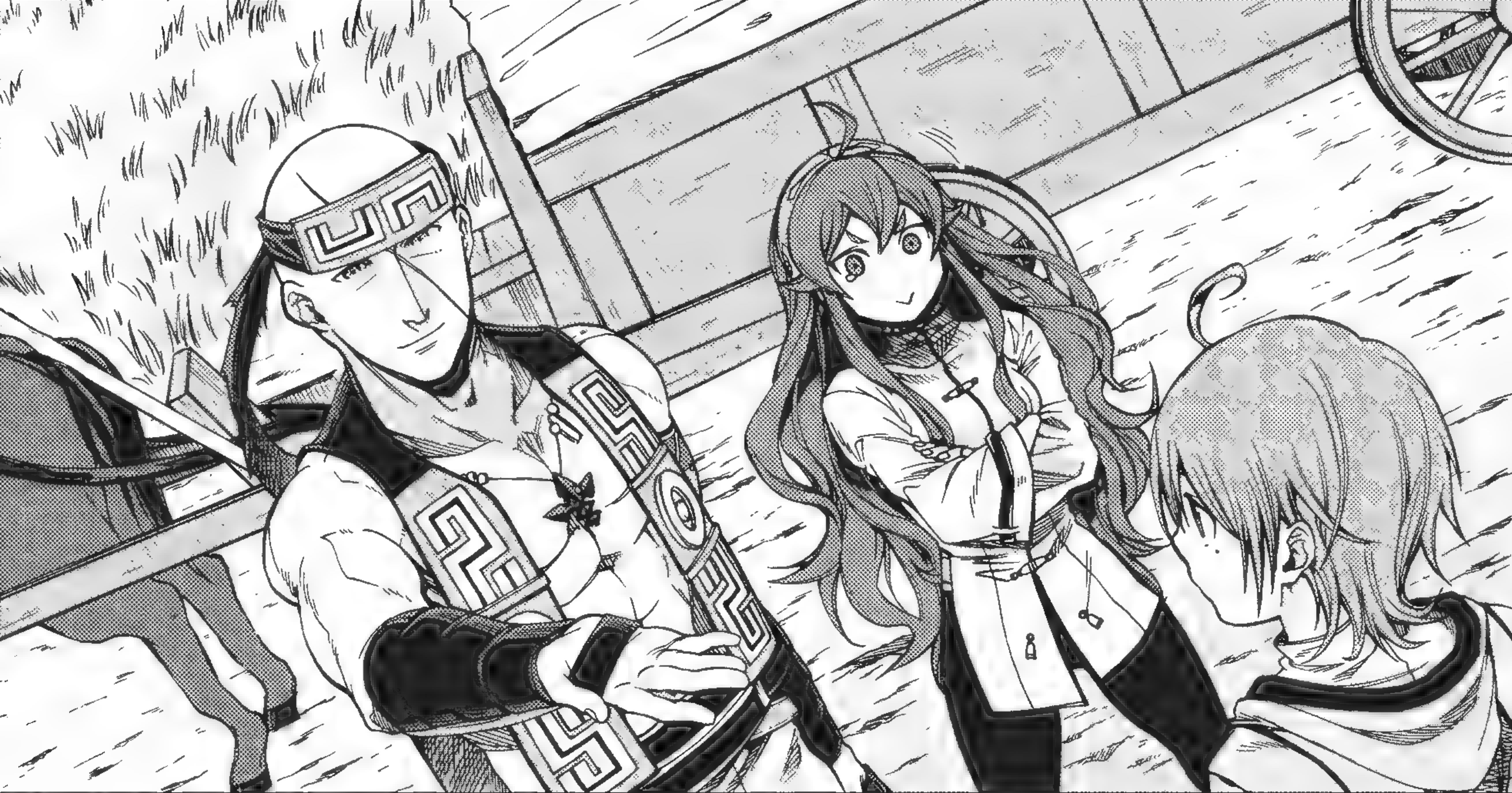
YOU AND
I ARE
EQUALS.

IF YOU
WANT TO
THANK
ME, THEN
LOOK ME
IN THE
EYE.



YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO
HELPED
ME.

WHO
CARES
ABOUT
SOME
GOD I'VE
NEVER
SEEN?



THANK
YOU,
RUIJERD.

THANK
YOU,
RUIJERD.





OH...
AND
BEFORE
I FOR-
GET...

I SEE.
GOOD
LUCK.



I'LL LOOK
FOR ANY
SURVIVING
SUPERD
LIVING
HERE IN
CENTRAL.

SO,
WHAT'RE
YOU
GOING
TO DO
NOW?



JINGLE

I
SHOULD
GIVE
THIS
BACK TO
YOU.



IT IS.
THAT'S
WHY YOU
SHOULD
KEEP IT.



YOU
SURE?
IT'S
IMPOR-
TANT
TO YOU,
RIGHT?

OH,
NO.
PLEASE
HOLD
ON TO
IT.



UNTIL
WE
MEET
AGAIN.



WELL
THEN,
RUDELIS
AND
ERIS...





AS
LONG
AS
WE'RE
ALIVE,
WE
WILL.

I'M
SURE
OF IT.



Mushoku
Tensei
jobless reincarnation



Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

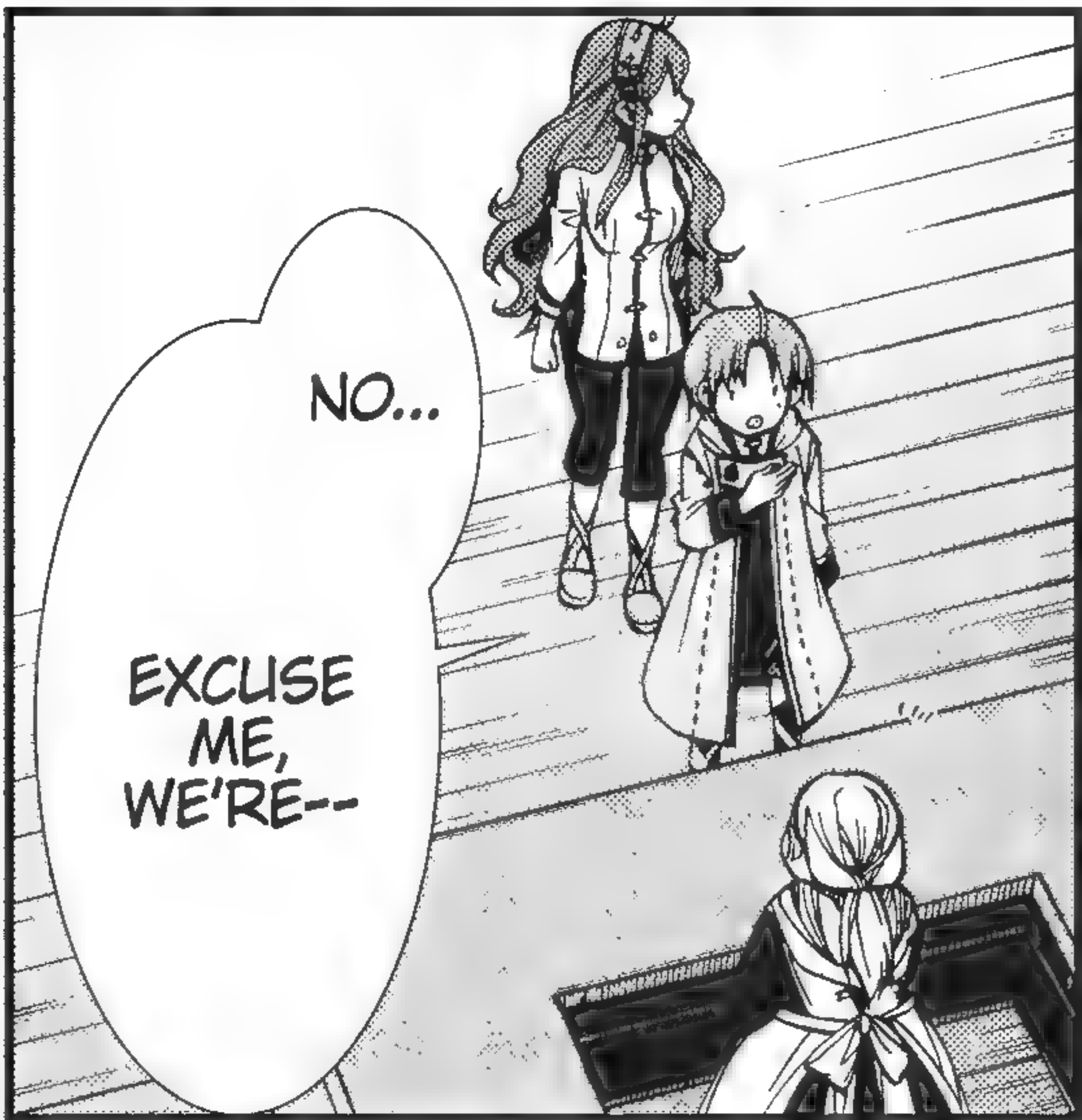
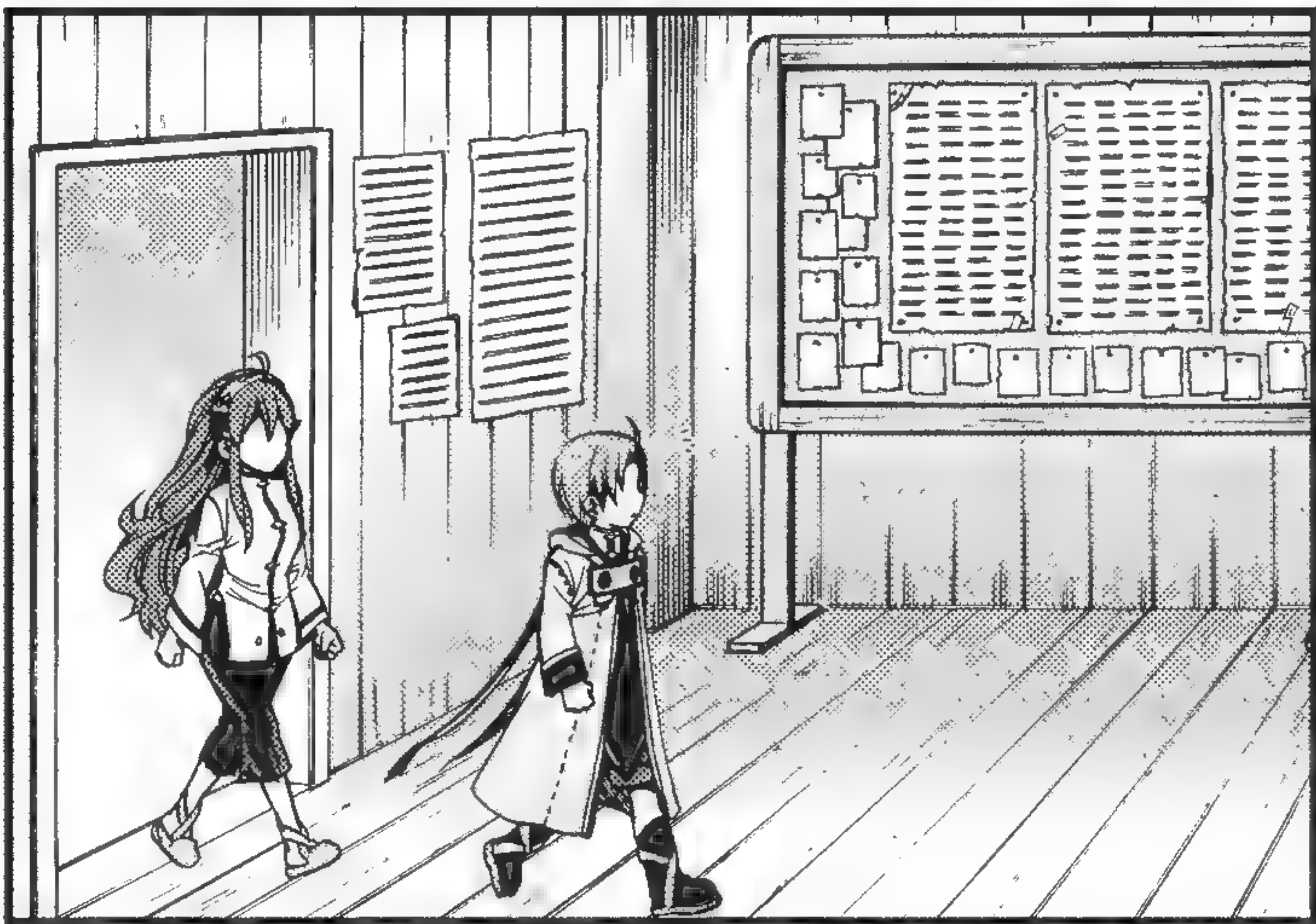


**Fittoa Region
Refugee Camp**

CHAPTER 50

THE TRUTH OF THE DISASTER







TMP TMP TMP TMP



ERIS!
RUDELIS
!!

WHAM

YOU'RE
ALL
RIGHT
!!



BEAM!

GHISLAINE
!!!



HUG
HUG

HUSH,
YOU!
JUST
CALL ME
ERIS!

SMILE



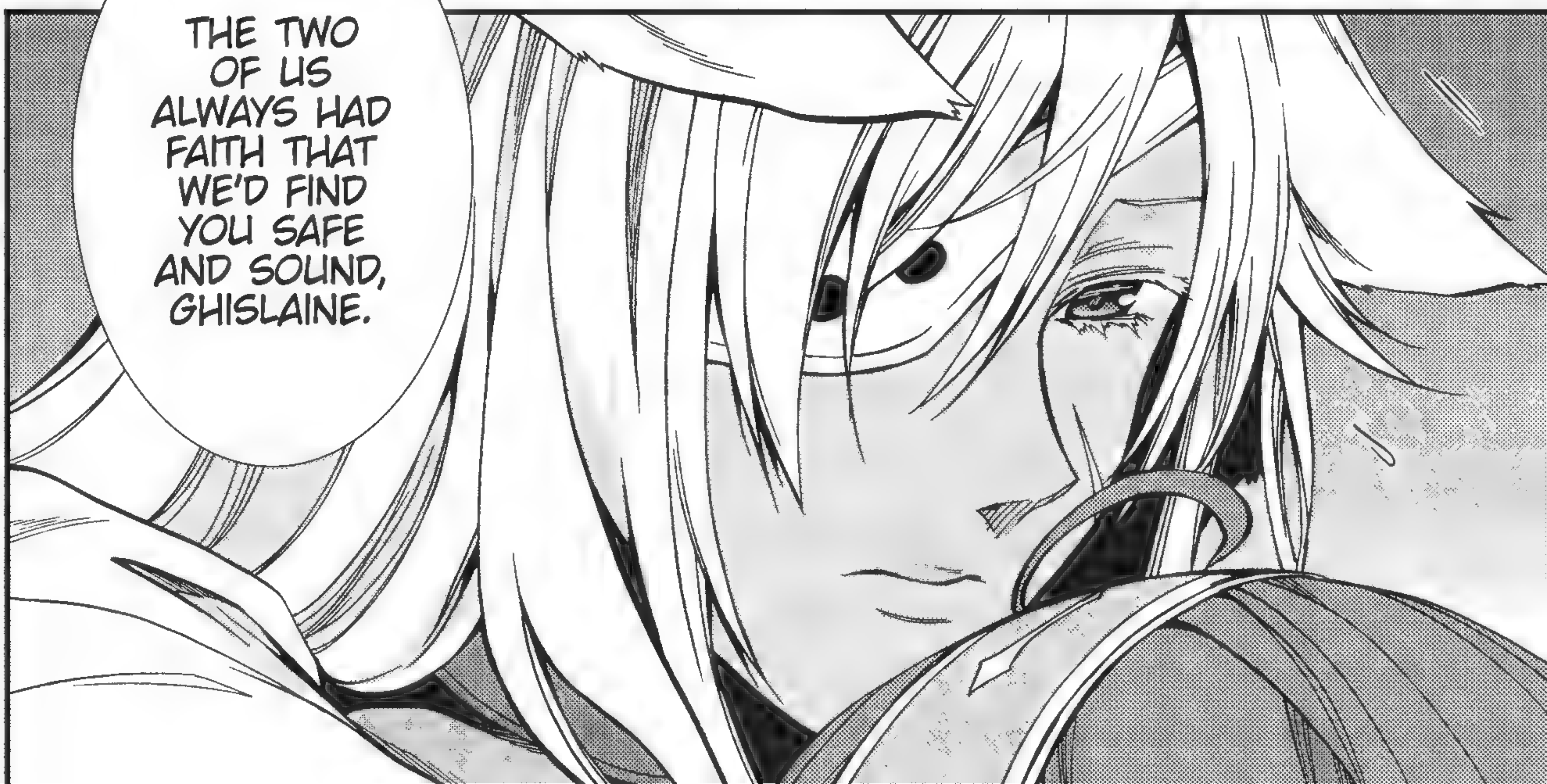
RUDEUS,
YOU BROUGHT
ERIS HERE,
DIDN'T YOU?
THANK YOU.

NO
NEED
TO
THANK
ME.

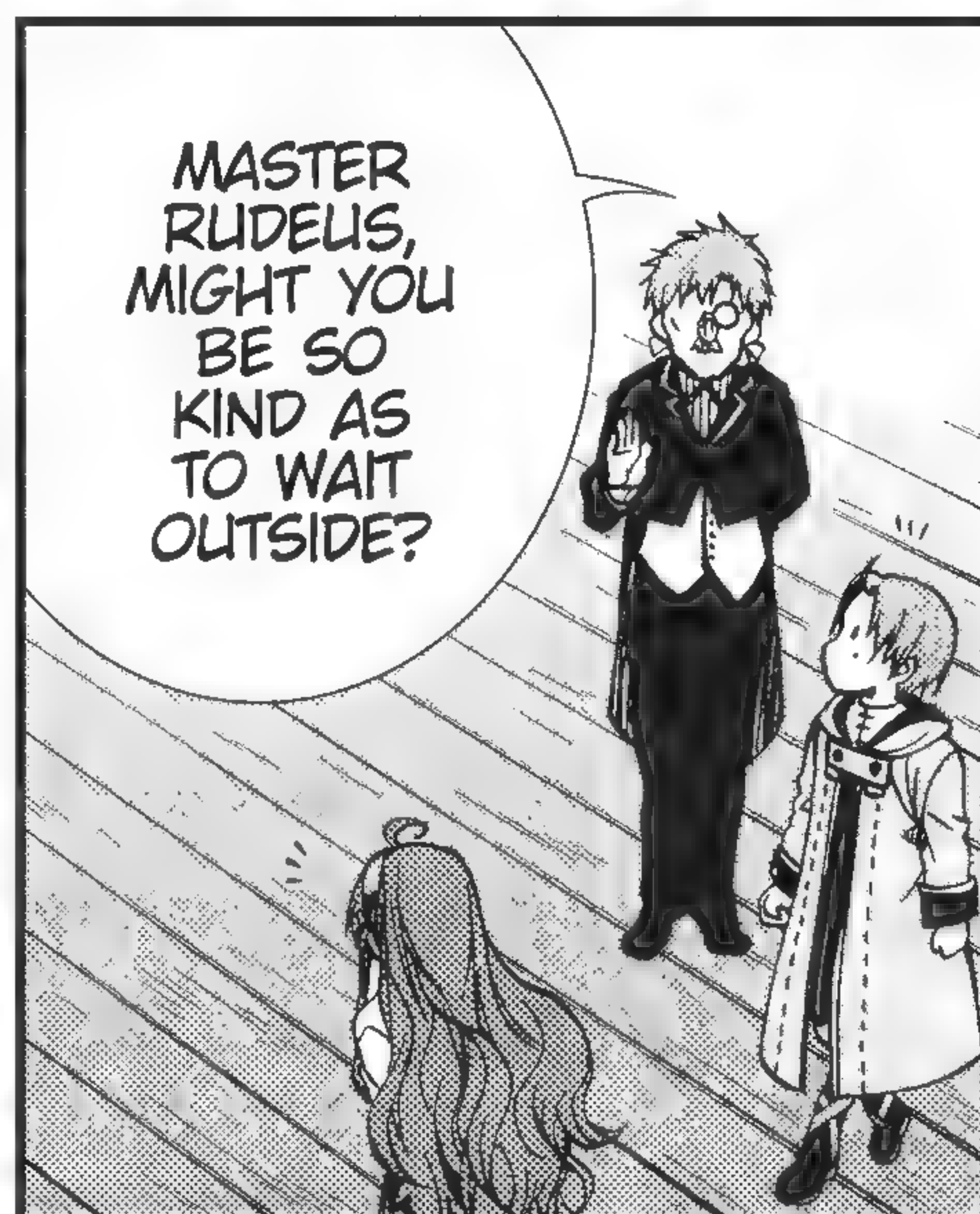
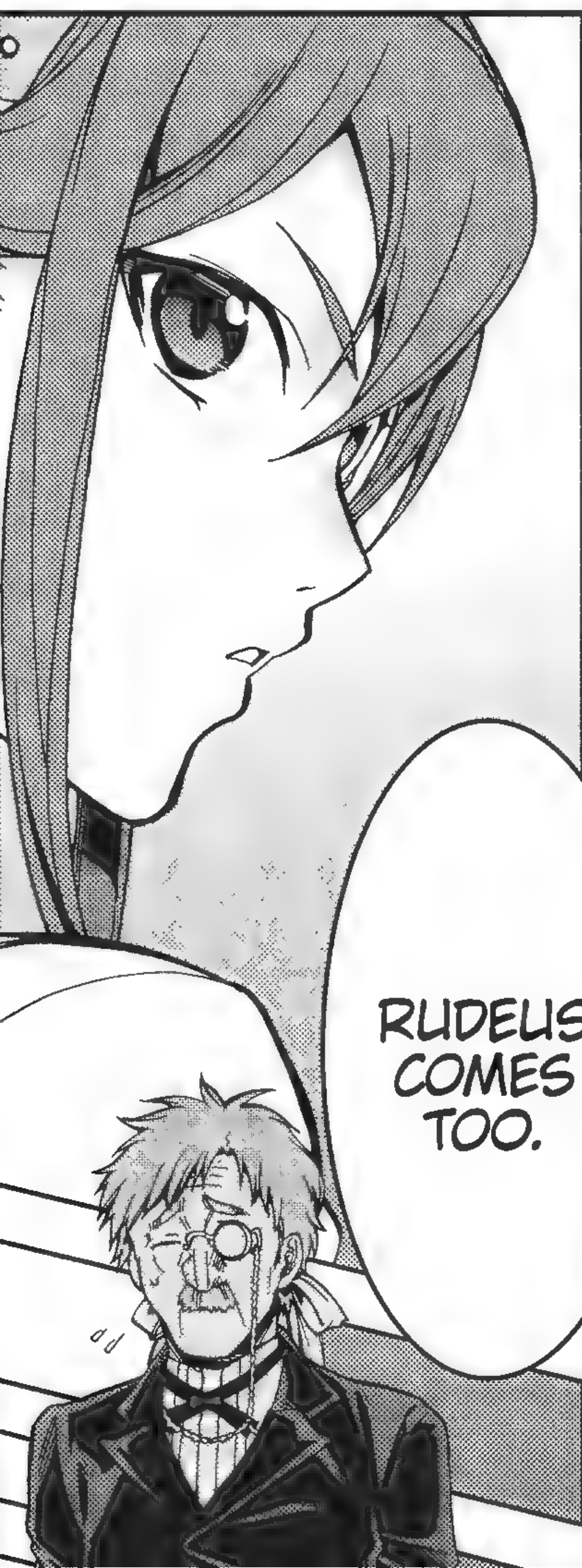


GHISLAINE,
YOU'RE
OKAY!

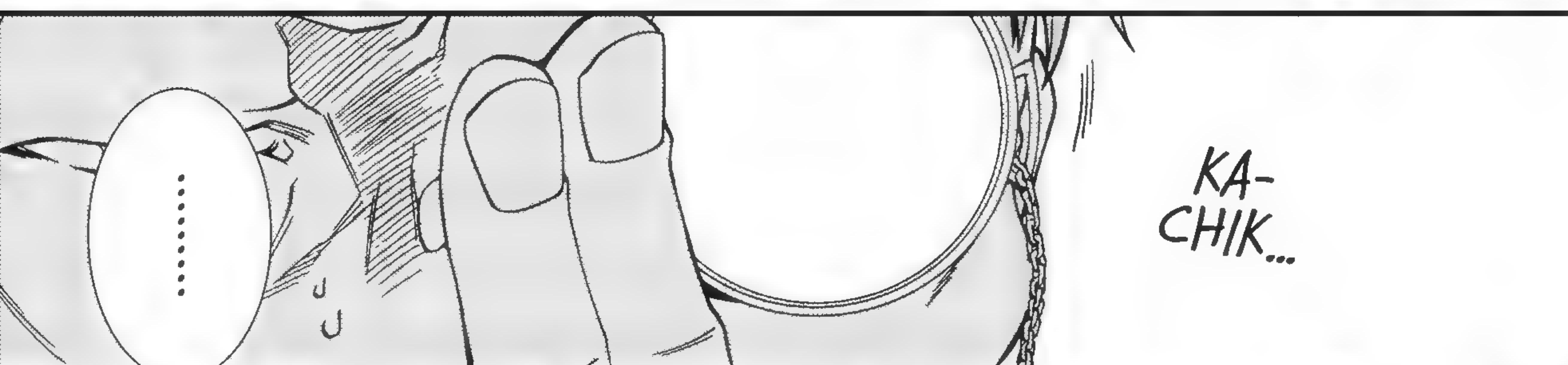
ERIS...
ER, LADY
ERIS, IT'S
GOOD TO
SEE YOU,
TOO...!



THE TWO
OF US
ALWAYS HAD
FAITH THAT
WE'D FIND
YOU SAFE
AND SOUND,
GHISLAINE.











I'M
AFRAID
SO.

YOU'RE
COM-
PLETELY
CERTAIN?



GHISLAINE
WAS
DISPLACED
TO THE
SAME
REGION.

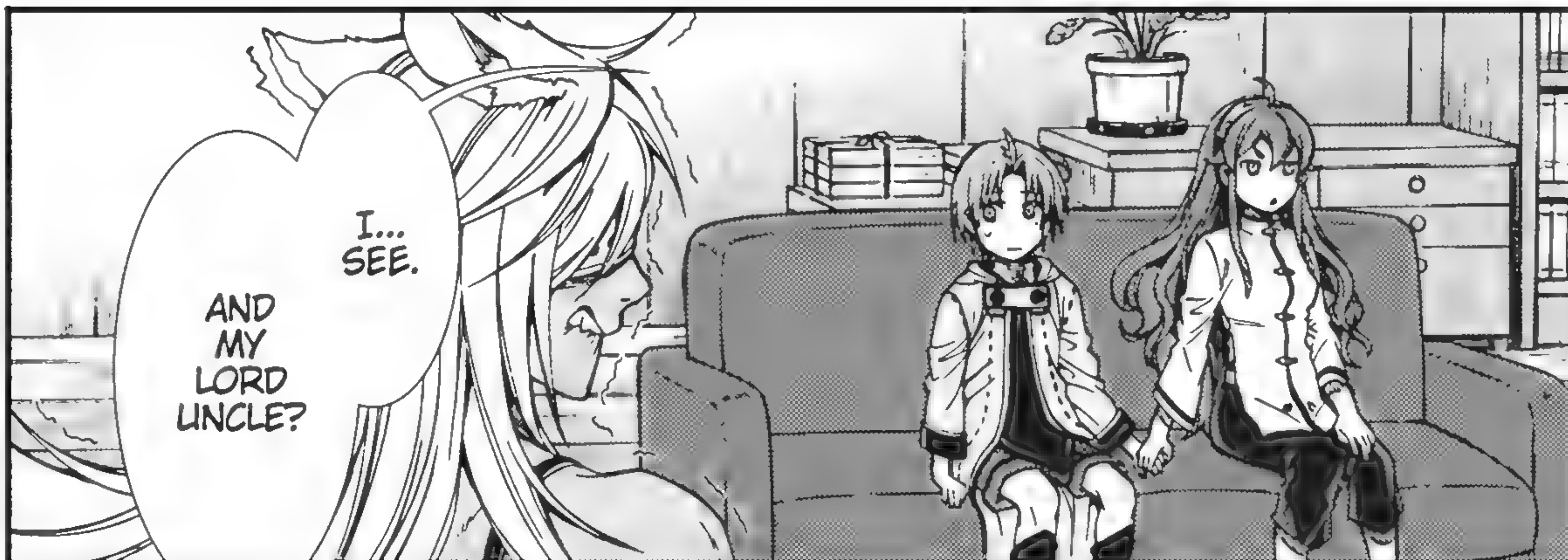
SHE
CONFIRMED
IT PER-
SONALLY.

LORD PHILLIP
AND LADY
HILDA WERE
BOTH DIS-
PLACED TO
A WARZONE.
THEY BECAME
CASUALTIES
OF THE
CONFLICT.



GNAW...





AND MY LORD UNCLE?

I... SEE.



NO WAY...



THAT MAKES NO SENSE! WHY WOULD THEY EVEN THINK ABOUT EXECUTING HIM?!

CLATTER

THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD HAVE DONE!



HE WAS... MADE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FITTOA TERRITORY DISPLACEMENT.

LORD SAUROS...

HE WAS EXECUTED FOR NEGLIGENCE.



RUDEUS.

WHAT
HAPPENS
NOW
THAT
ERIS HAS
MADE IT
BACK
HOME?

BUT
MORE
THAN
THAT...

SO LONG
AS THE
LORD
SURVIVED,
THEY HAD
A CHANCE
TO REALLY
REBUILD
FITTOA!

HE
WAS
ALIVE!
SAFE!
WHY
THROW
HIM
AWAY?!



I AM
SORRY,
MASTER
RUDEUS.

BUT
THIS
IS THE
CURRENT
STATE OF
THE KING-
DOM OF
ASURA.



SIT.

TUG



WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING
TO DO?

AND
...?



IT IS
HIS AVOWED
WISH TO
TAKE LADY
ERIS AS HIS
CONSORT
AND CONCU-
BINE.

LORD
PHILEMON
NOTOS
GREYRAT
HAS TAKEN
THE LEAD.



ARE YOU
TELLING
ME YOU'RE
GOING
ALONG WITH
THAT SORRY
JOKE OF AN
OFFER?!

CLUTCH

ALPHONSE,
YOU
BASTARD
!!

WHICH
MEANS...
PHILEMON
IS MY
UNCLE.

PHILEMON
NOTOS?
NOTOS IS
PAUL'S
ORIGINAL
FAMILY,
RIGHT...?



GHIS-
LAINE
?!
Oo.

AS IF
ERIS COULD
EVER BE
HAPPY
MARRIED
TO THAT
PIECE OF
HUMAN
GARBAGE!!





SCREW
FITTOA!
WHAT
ABOUT
ERIS?!

SOME
HARDSHIP
IS TO BE
EXPECTED.
WE ARE
STRIVING
FOR THE
VERY
FUTURE OF
FITTOA.

GARBAGE,
PERHAPS,
BUT NOBLE
GARBAGE.

THUMP

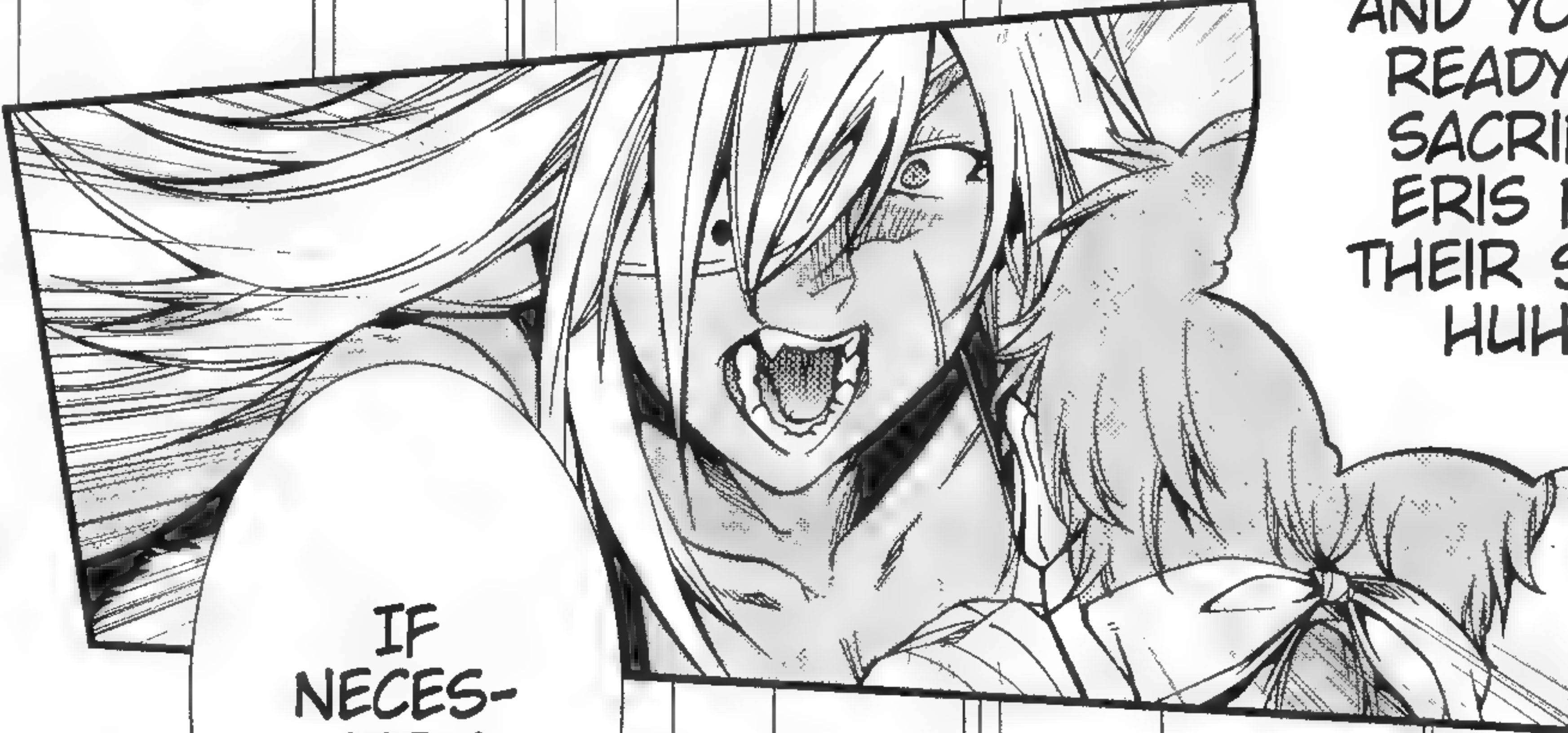


BOTH
OF YOU,
CALM
DOWN!



GLINK!

I AM
THINKING
OF THE
BOREAS
FAMILY.
OF ALL
FITTOA!



AND YOU'RE
READY TO
SACRIFICE
ERIS FOR
THEIR SAKE,
HUH?!

IF
NECES-
SARY.



Fuu...

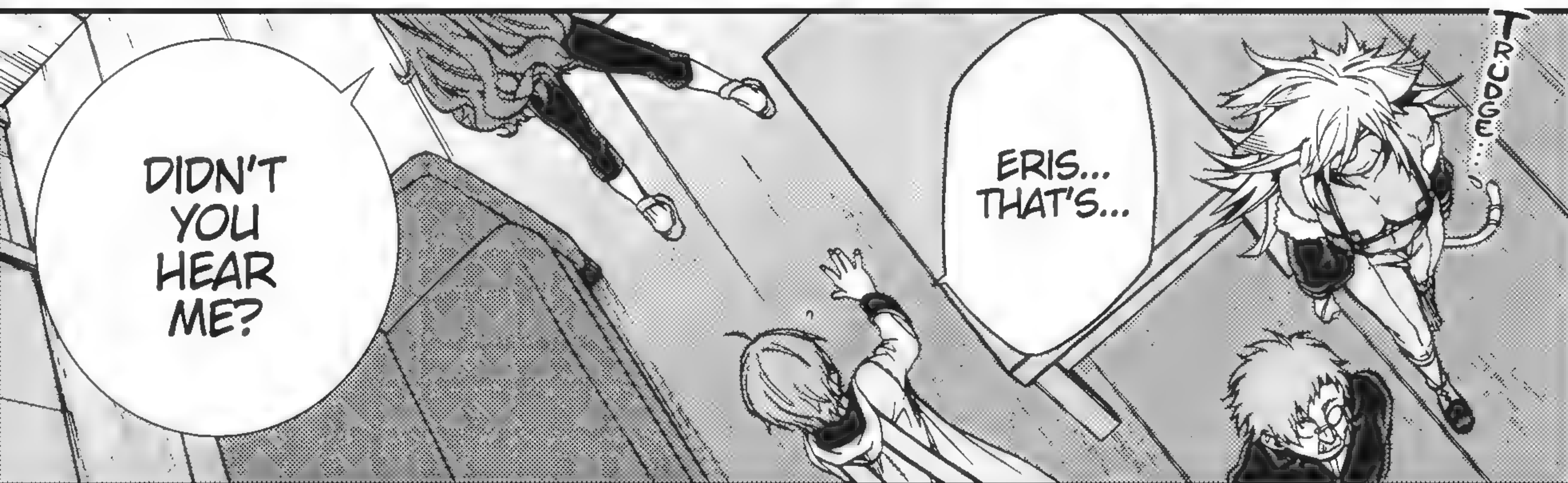




I NEED
TO
THINK.

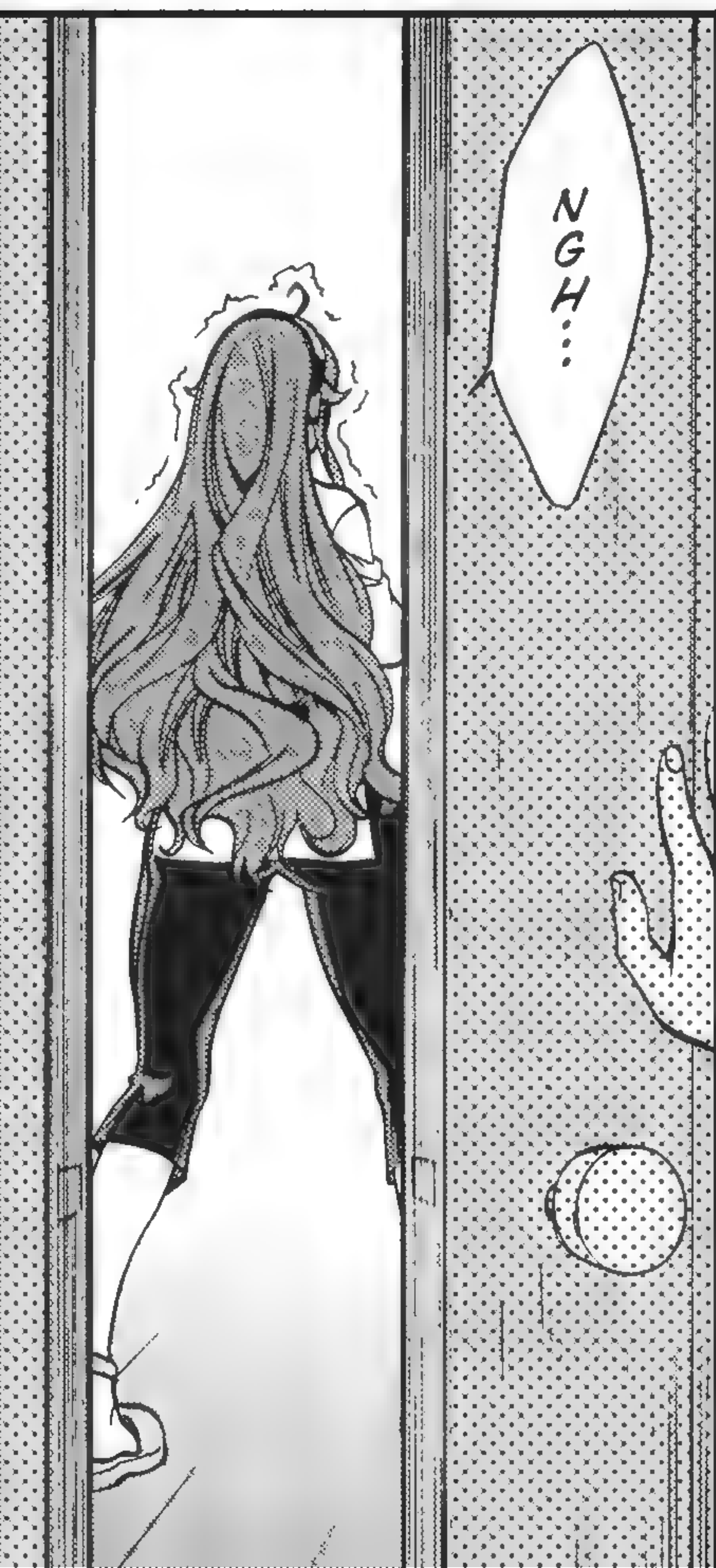


GIVE
ME
SOME
TIME
ALONE.



DIDN'T
YOU
HEAR
ME?

ERIS...
THAT'S...



N
G
H...

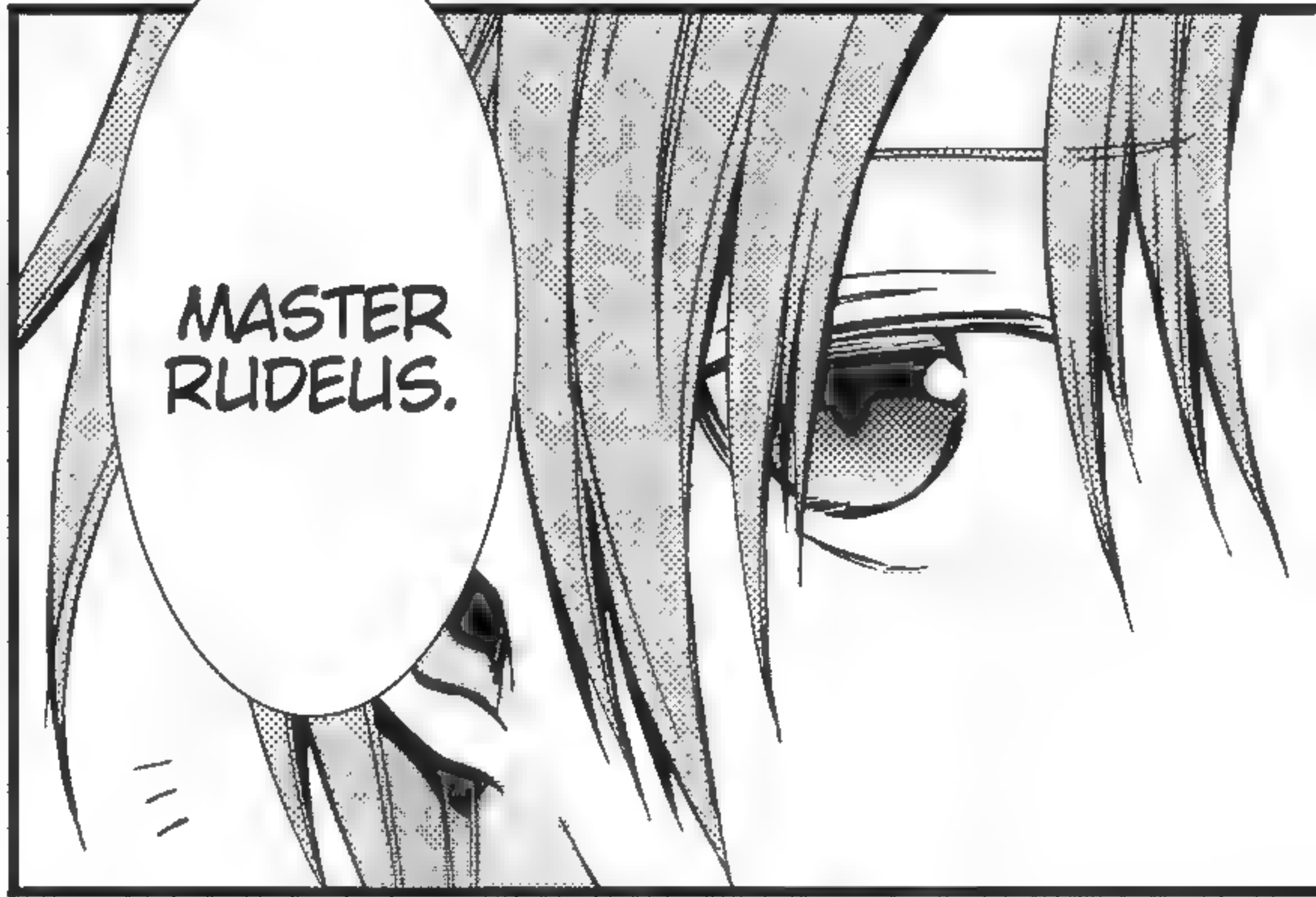
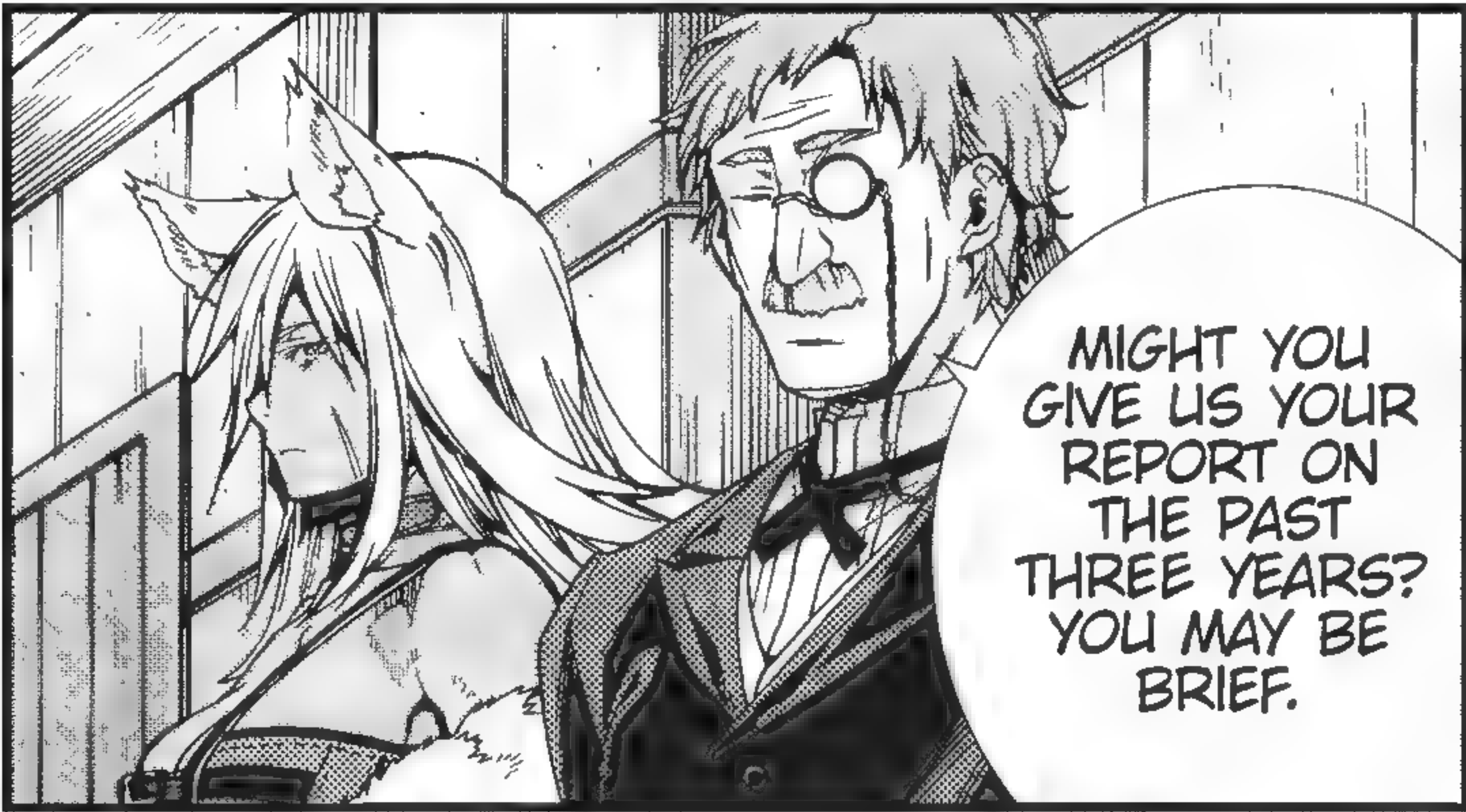
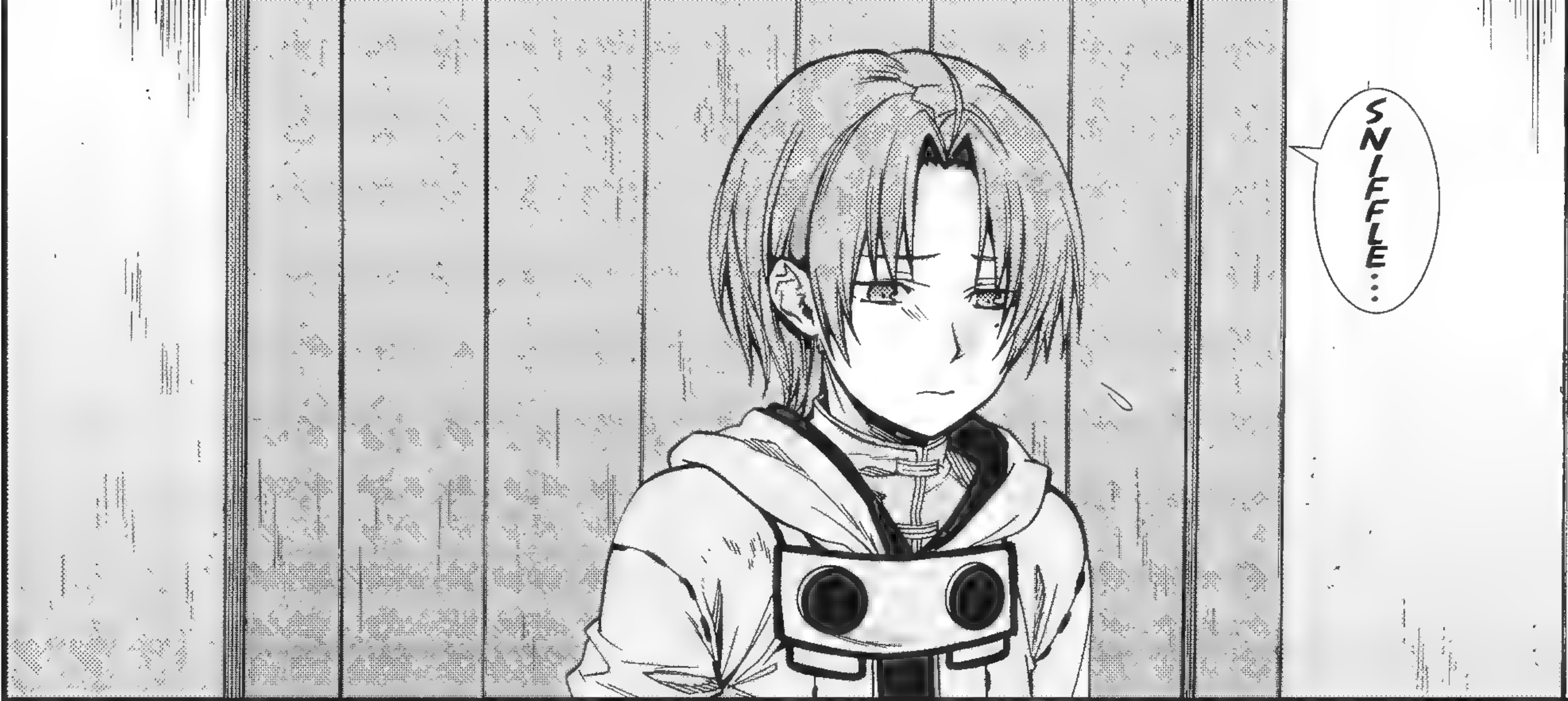


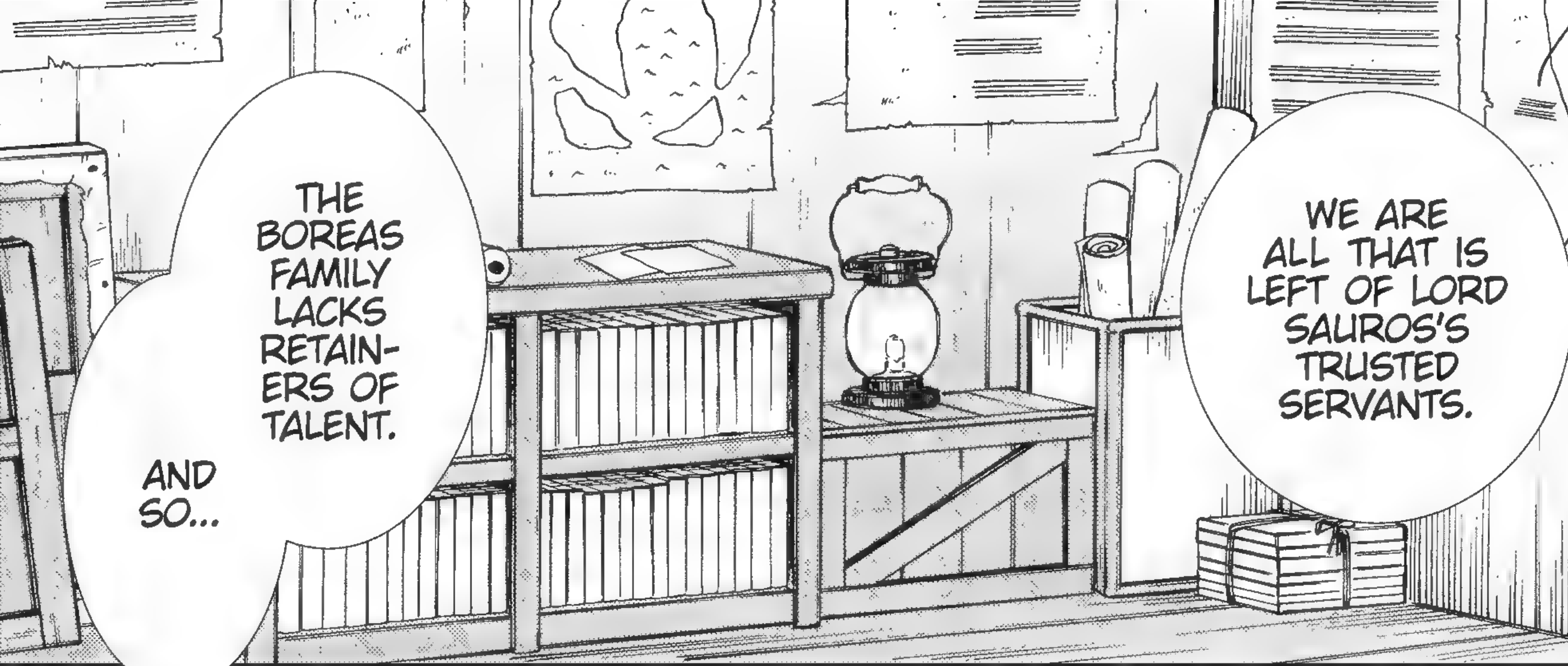
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N
E.





THE
BOREAS
FAMILY
LACKS
RETAIN-
ERS OF
TALENT.

AND
SO...

WE ARE
ALL THAT IS
LEFT OF LORD
SAUROS'S
TRUSTED
SERVANTS.



A
RETAIN-
ER...

I
SEE...
THANK
YOU.



I HEREBY
ACKNOWL-
EDGE YOU
AS A
SENIOR
RETAINER
OF THE
BOREAS
GREYRAT
FAMILY.

MASTER
RUDELIS, IN
ACKNOWLEDGE-
MENT OF YOUR
ACHIEVEMENTS,
VALIANTLY
GUARDING
MISS ERIS
AND BRINGING
HER SAFELY
HOME...




THE
SUBJECT
OF
DISCUSSION
IS MISS
ERIS'S
FUTURE.



ARE
THERE
ANY
OBJEC-
TIONS?

I REALIZE
THIS IS
ABRUPT.
HOWEVER,
I WOULD LIKE
TO CONVENE
A FORMAL
MEETING
OF THE
RETAINERS.





IF SHE HAS NO PLACE TO GO, HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE HER AS WIFE.

NEXT, LORD PHILEMON GREYRAT HAS MADE AN OFFER OF HIS OWN. A CONTENTIOUS ONE, I'M SURE YOU NOTICED.

NORMALLY, THAT WOULD NOT BE A BAD OUTCOME. UNFORTUNATELY... THERE ARE DARK RUMORS SURROUNDING LORD PHILEMON.



WHAT'S SO DARK ABOUT THAT?

?

PEOPLE SAY THAT, OF LATE, HE HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO CURRY FAVOR WITH LORD DARIUS, THE HIGH MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF ASURA, WHO HAS SUDDENLY BECOME MOST POWERFUL.

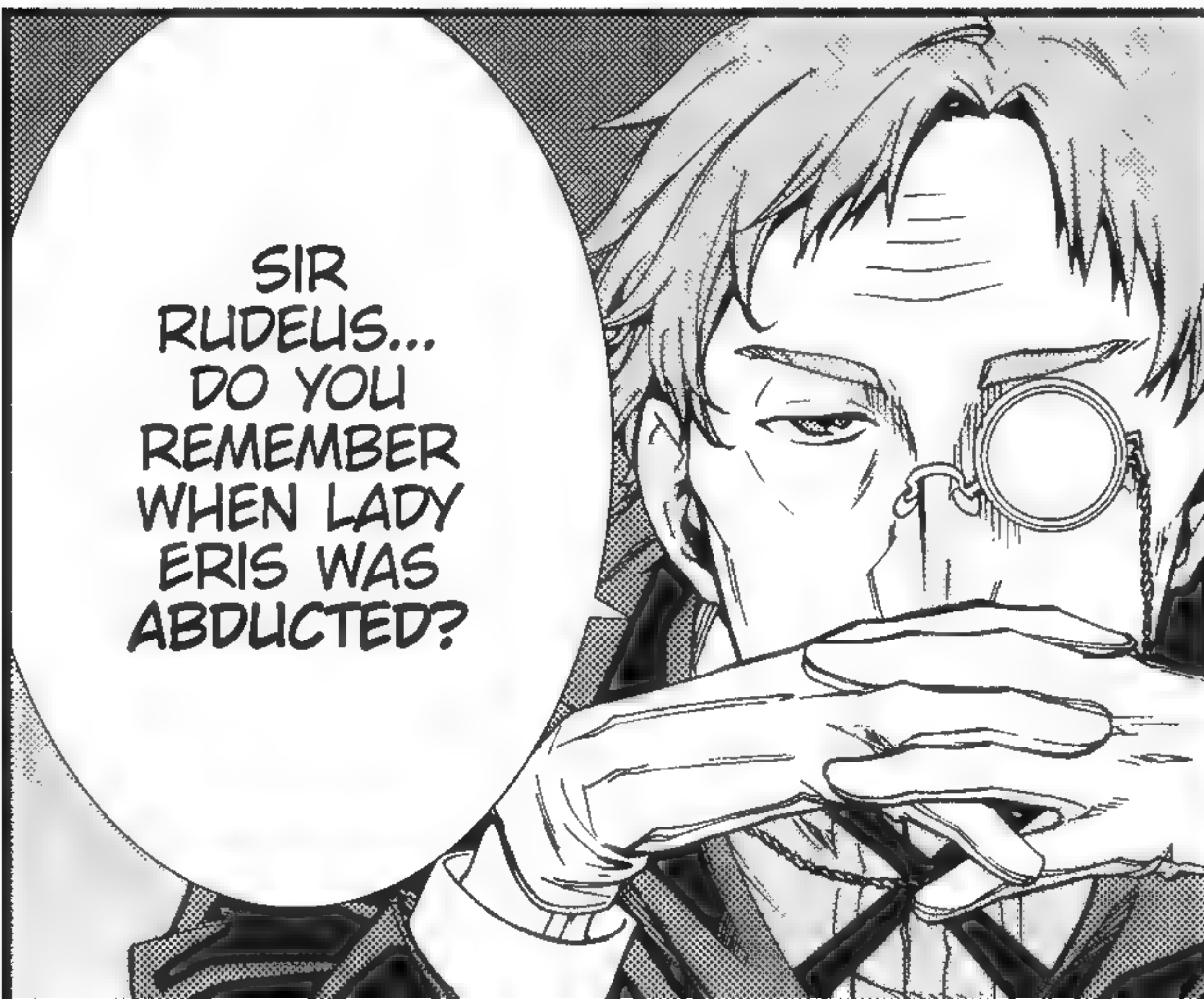


THINGS TOOK
A TURN WHEN
LORD DARIUS
HAD HER ROYAL
HIGHNESS
BANISHED FROM
THE KINGDOM.



WHY IS
THAT AN
ISSUE?

WITH HIS
PATRONESS
GONE, LORD
PHILEMON LOST
POWER. SO
NOW HE'S
TRYING TO
CURRY FAVOR
WITH THE
WINNING SIDE,
RIGHT?



SIR
RUDELIS...
DO YOU
REMEMBER
WHEN LADY
ERIS WAS
ABDUCTED?



IN ASURA,
THE PRINCE
AND PRIN-
CESS ARE
LOCKED IN A
STRUGGLE
OVER THE
SUCCESSION.

LORD
DARIUS
BELONGS
TO THE
PRINCE'S
FACTION.

HOWEVER,
LORD
PHILEMON
WAS LOYAL
TO THE
PRINCESS.



IT SEEMS THAT HIS AUGUST PERSONAGE HAD TAKEN QUITE A LIKING TO LADY ERIS ON A PREVIOUS OCCASION.



WHAT ?!

THE ONE THAT ESCALATED RATHER MORE THAN YOU INTENDED. LORD DARIUS WAS BEHIND IT.

ABDUCTED? YOU MEAN...THE ABDUCTION I PROPOSED?



I GRIMACE AT THE VERY THOUGHT. BUT WE HAVE LIMITED OPTIONS.

THOUGH SHE MAY SUFFER, SHE WILL HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF POWER, AND HER STATUS WILL BE ASSURED.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, MASTER RUDEUS?



SHOULD LORD PHILEMON MAKE LADY ERIS HIS WIFE...

HE WILL MOST CERTAINLY OFFER HER TO LORD DARIUS.



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS, GHISLAINE ...?



THAT
MISS ERIS
SHOULD
BE WITH
YOU,
RUDELIS.

I
THINK...

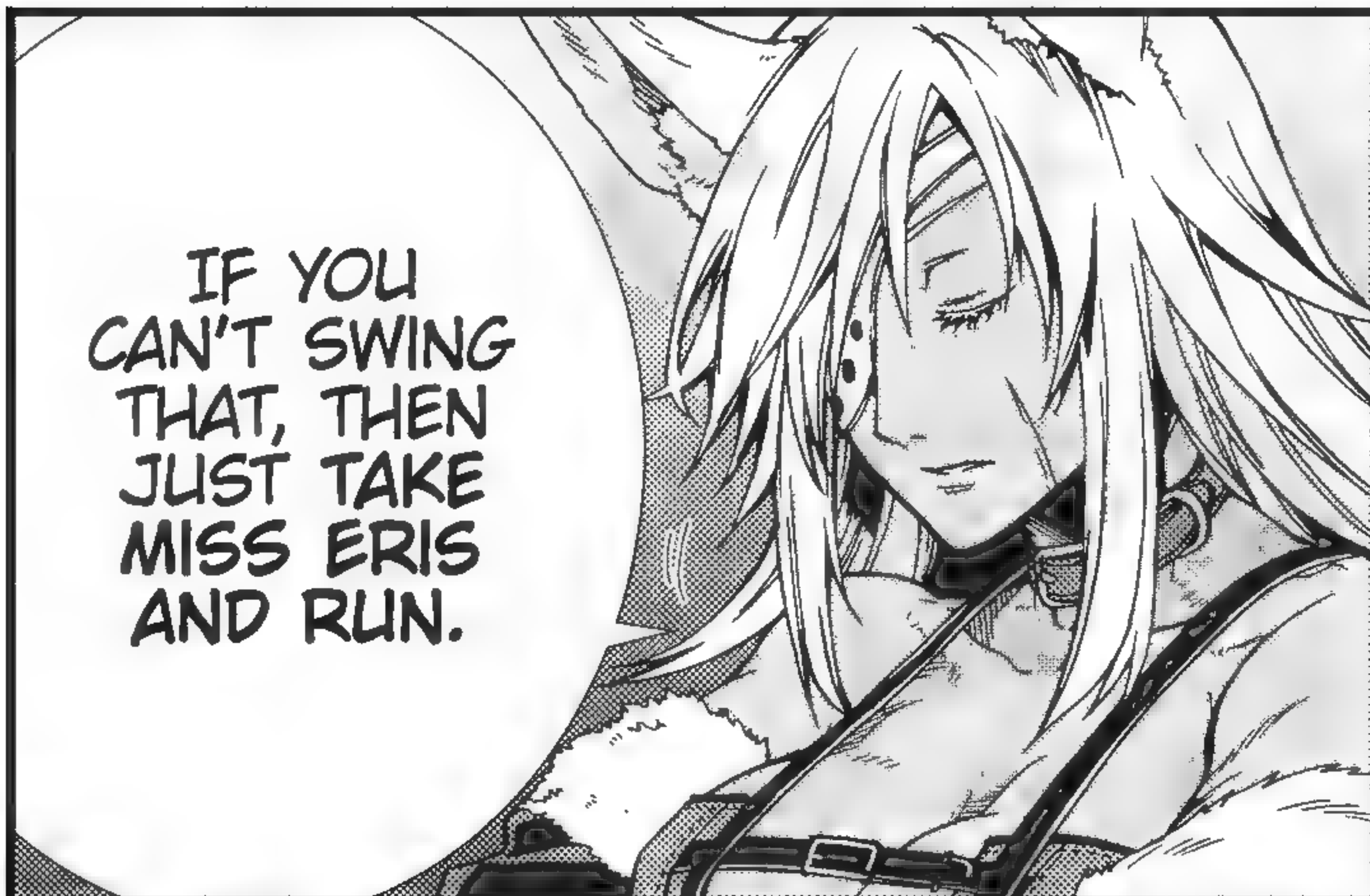


YOUR
PEDIGREE
ISN'T SO
BAD. MAYBE
YOU COULD
PULL OFF
BECOMING
AN ASURAN
NOBLE
YOURSELF.



WITH
ME
...?

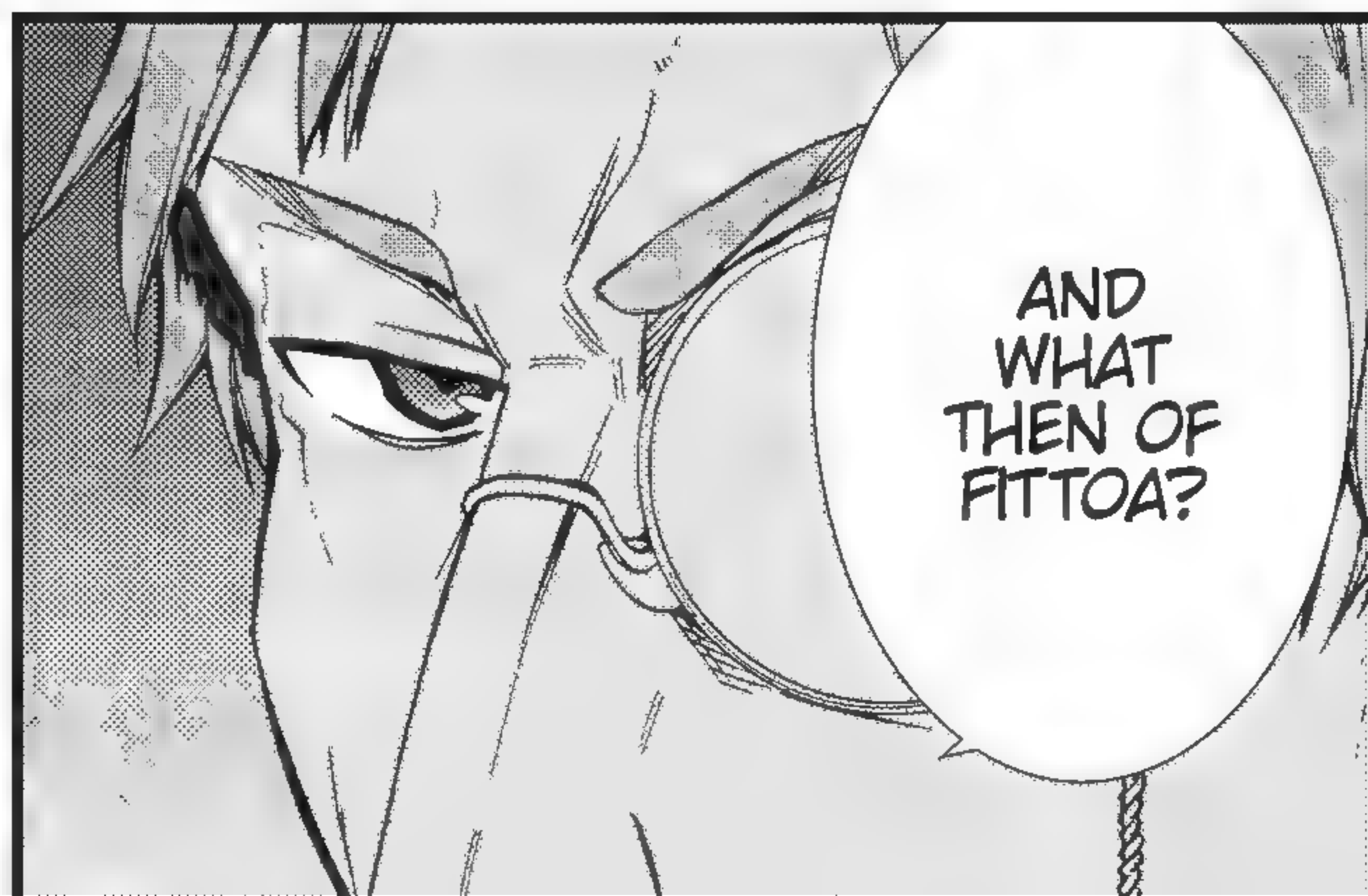
THA-
THUMP



IF YOU
CAN'T SWING
THAT, THEN
JUST TAKE
MISS ERIS
AND RUN.

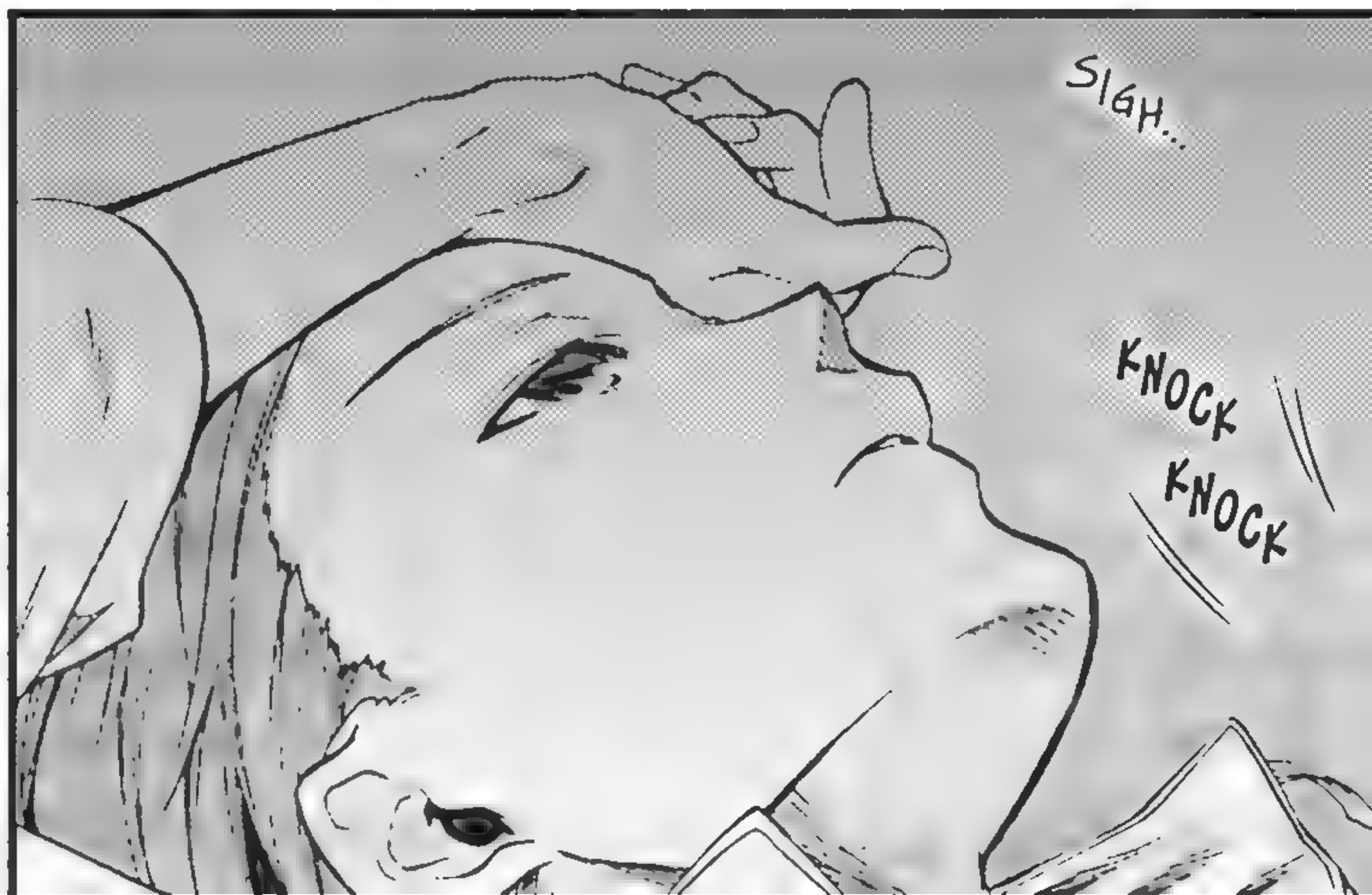
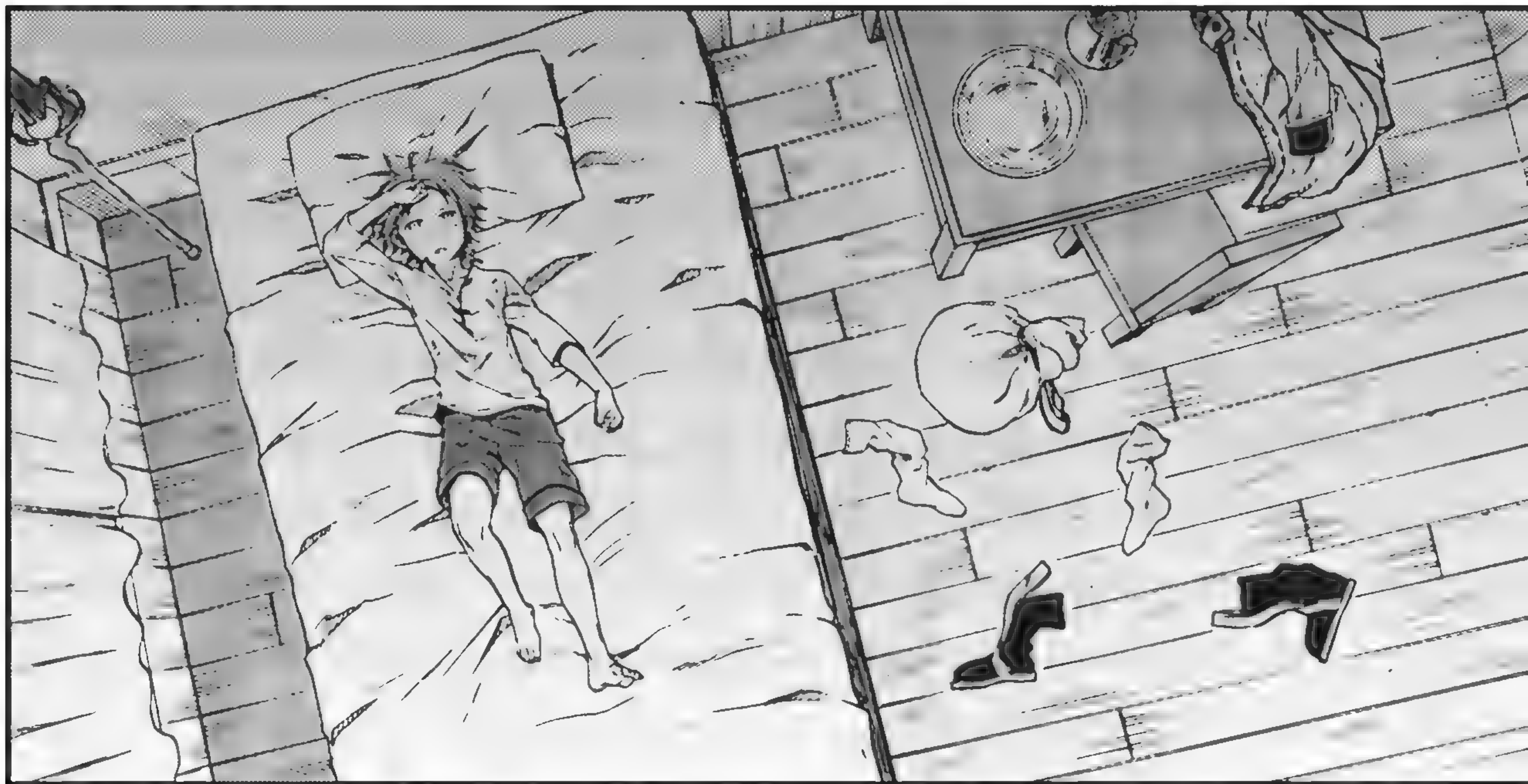
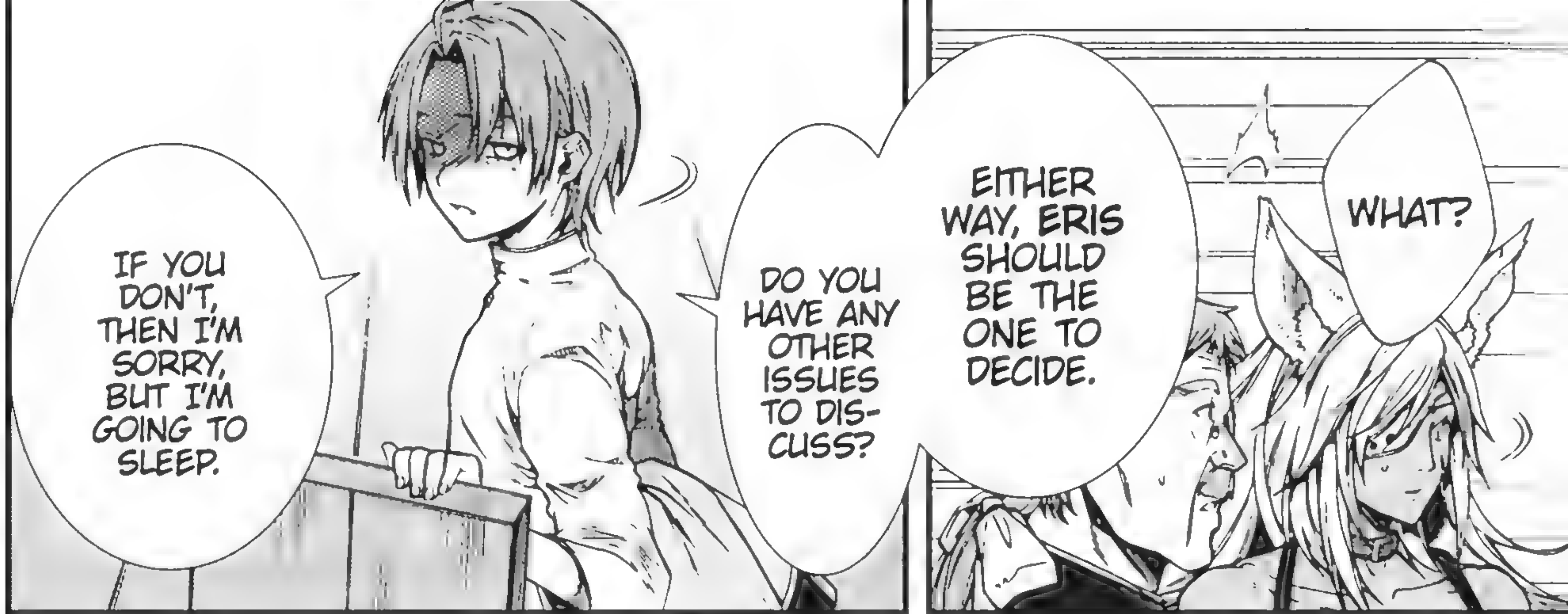


WHO
CARES?
THAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM,
NOT MINE.



AND
WHAT
THEN OF
FITTOA?









Mushoku
Tensei
jobless reincarnation



Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation



無職転生

異世界行方不
明

Mushoku Tensei
jobless
reincarnation

Re:ゼロ

Re: Life in a different world from zero

から始める異世界生活

Re:ZERO
Starting Life in
Another World

SHORT STORY
COLLABORATION:
Mushoku Tensei
X
Re:ZERO
—*Starting Life in*
Another World—

❖ Chapter 3 ❖

By Rifujin na Magonote

My name is Rudeus Greyrat, and I reincarnated into another world as a totally hot guy.

I might be hot, but I took my past life's mistakes to heart. I'm a nice guy now.

Admittedly, I've made some entirely new mistakes along the way...but I was a shut-in back on Earth, so I didn't have much life experience. I was bound to screw a few things up.

That was my outlook on life: do it right this time. I gave it my best shot, and the days passed by like that until I finally brought Eris to the Red Dragon's

Mandible. Our ultimate destination, the Kingdom of Asura, was right in front of us. I was ready to work hard.

“Yo,” said the young man in front of me as I was leaving the inn.

His hair was on the short side, and he had an evil gaze. He was of average height and looked to be about six or seven years older than me.

What really stood out were his clothes.

He had a tracksuit on.

They have tracksuits here too?!

Okay, I didn't *really* think they made tracksuits in these parts. I'm not that naïve. The guy's outfit was made from an entirely different cloth than you can find anywhere around. The zipper and the seams were different too.

He was someone from another world.

That's right. Here was someone who came to this world from Earth, just like me.

There's nothing strange about that. It's not like I was special. I just hadn't met anyone like that yet...but now that I thought about it, there were probably more.

Well, let's leave it at that, shall we?

I asked: “Excuse me, but are you all right?”

He looked worn out. Exhausted, both mentally and physically. Like he wanted to go back to his world, but couldn't. Like he didn't know how to get back there, and was wandering around aimlessly. Still, he looked straight at me. Maybe he heard about our party, “Dead End,” and how we save people?



“Sorry this is so sudden...but can you help me out?”

“Of course.”

If we saw someone in need, we didn't just leave them. And if that person was someone from the same world as me, then there was even more reason to help.



“I see.”

He said he was Natsuki Subaru, and he was Japanese.

He'd only arrived in this world a few days ago, and found out about me from Hitogami. To get back to his own world, he needed a magical tool and lots of power. That's why he was here.

Some guy named Orsted had the tool. He was supposed to kill me at the Red Dragon's Mandible. Supposedly, Hitogami doesn't want me dead, and sent Subaru because our goals were the same: to defeat Orsted.

“So you're saying you're an alien from another world, and you came all this way to save my life?”

“Well, mostly I just want to get home. Let's focus on how we'll get that done.”

Subaru seemed a bit evasive. It was almost like he knew his plan was doomed to failure.

To test that theory, I gave him few suggestions.

“Tried that,” he replied. “It didn't work.”

I felt more and more uneasy each time he rejected a suggestion.



Multiple layers of large scale magic, siccing red dragons on Orsted, surrounding him with high ranking adventurers...none of that could defeat him.

Well, I guess that's okay. That's just how strong he is.

But where and when did all those things happen?

If there was a huge battle, there should've been something about it at the adventurer's guild, but I couldn't find anything of the sort. He'd tried too many different plans of attack, too. How could someone who just came to this world a few days ago have come up with so many plans and tried them all?

Maybe he had some kind of special power?

Like predicting the future, or maybe...

Going back in time?

If that was true, then why didn't he say so?

"Subaru, not to interrupt you or anything, but can I ask you a question?"

"Wh-what?"

"Do you have some kind of special power?"

Subaru looked shocked. His mouth spasmed; he broke out in a cold sweat. His eyes glazed over. "I, uh... you know, can't talk about it."

I guess there was a reason, with a reaction like that. Maybe there was some kind of drawback involved. Like, if he told me, his power would be taken away and he couldn't go back in time again, or something.

He rubbed at his neck. "Sorry 'bout that."



“It’s okay. If you can’t say more, that’s just how it is, right? Stuff happens. Go on.”

“...”

Whether he could predict the future or go back in time, the situation didn’t change.

We needed a whole new approach.

His expression told me that any obvious plan would end in failure, and our hope for success was slim to none. We had to change things up, or failure was inevitable.

“I had a few ideas, but maybe not good ones...”

“Hmm...”

If we’d gone through this loop already, we must’ve also already gone through my suggestions, right? In the previous loop, I must’ve realized he had some special power and said something. So there was a pretty real possibility that whatever came out of my mouth now was just a waste of time.

Most importantly, it looked like everything we’d tried before had been a total failure.

After I told him my latest idea, Subaru’s face seemed to say, “Not again!”

He shook his head. “You got any other ideas? Anything at all? Doesn’t matter how stupid they are, let’s hear them.”

The way he worded that made it sound like he couldn’t predict the future. After all, if he could, he’d know all my ideas before I even opened my mouth, wouldn’t he?

That meant his power was going back in time.

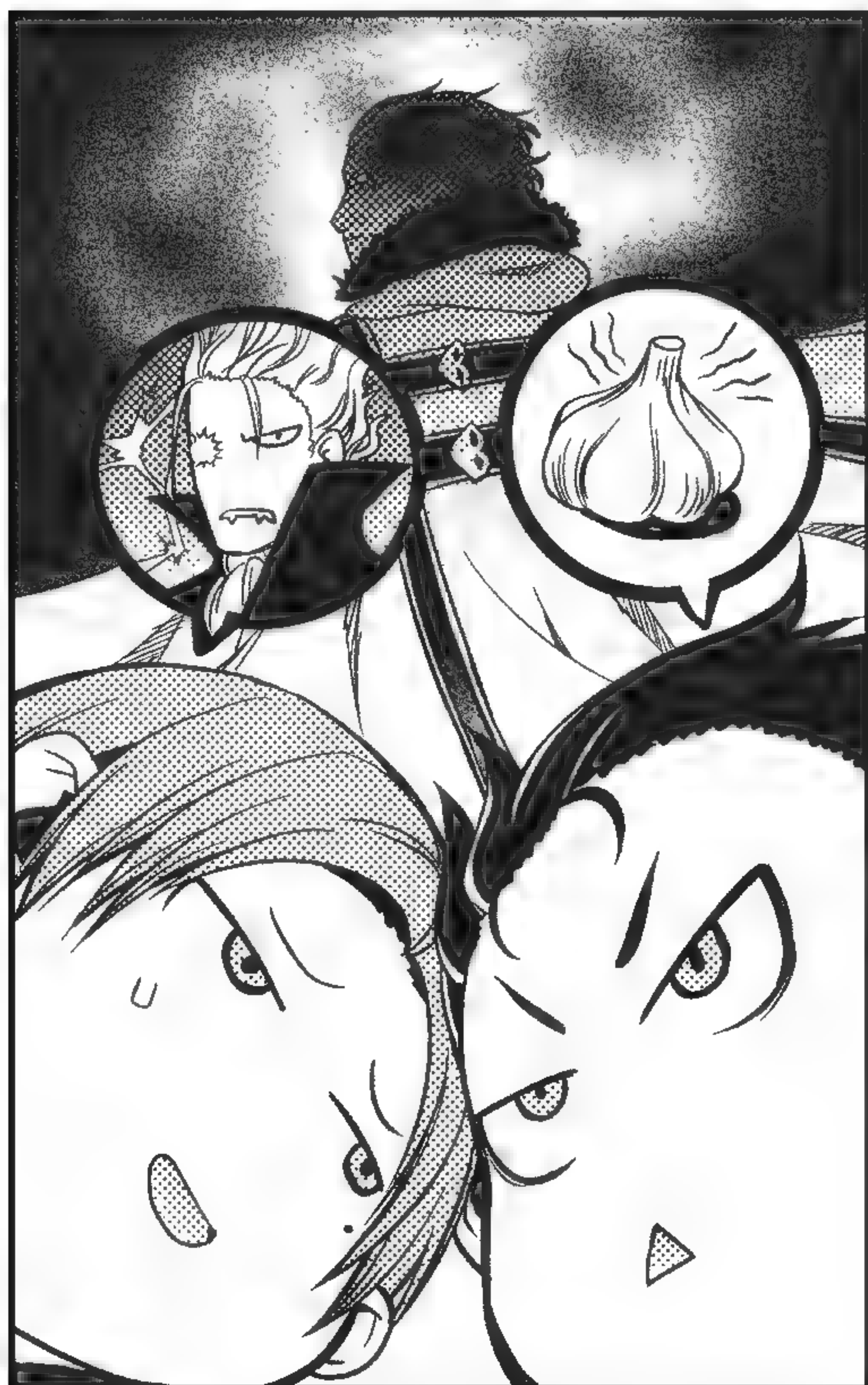
Which left me no option but coming up with some kind of brilliant plan to deal with an unstoppable enemy, like some kind of legendary general or genius detective.

Hah, as if! I wasn't that smart.

Ultimately, there was only one thing I could say. "Maybe we should give up on fighting him? If we simply can't beat him, then I doubt any new plans are going to change the inevitable."

"But...Orsted's not easy to find. If we miss this chance, there's no telling when we'll see him next. I might...never see him again."

He answered really quickly. I must've said that before...



"Isn't there some other way to solve this? Like... he'll turn to ashes if we hit him with garlic or something?"

"He supposed to be a vampire, then? He looks more or less human, but I dunno..."

Looks, hmm...

I didn't know Orsted. What he looked like, what his voice sounded like, or what his personality was like. There was even a



chance he was a really nice guy. Maybe it'd be worth talking to him? But then again, if he was such a nice guy, would he really just up and kill me like that?

"Hold up. Why do I die, anyway?"

"I told you. Orsted hits you in the chest at the Red Dragon's Mandible, and—"

"Not that. Why did he *want* to kill me? I haven't done anything to make someone that dangerous hold a grudge."

"No, you haven't. Sorry this is such a one man show, but it looks like I changed history when I came here. You weren't originally supposed to die."

"Then if we change history back, I don't have to die, right?"

Subaru looked surprised. Guess I hadn't come up with that idea before.

But his expression soon clouded over. I immediately knew why.

"I won't die, but you won't get that magical tool you need, right, Subaru? Forget I even mentioned it."

"Yeah."

He came to me because he wanted help.

Stranded in another world without a shoulder to lean on, wandering all alone, struggling in vain...he was powerless. So he came to me, asking me for help.

I knew he must be down, like I was when I was kicked out of my parents' house in my past life. And yet, through all of this, not only was he trying to get back to his old world, he was trying to save me, too.



So we couldn't just save me. But if we couldn't save him, then why was I even alive now? Either way, the fact that Subaru was here meant that history had already changed. I could ask Hitogami how history used to be, but unless he gave me some detailed advice, I doubt we could fix it.

"Hmm."

Anyway, we couldn't succeed through brute force.

If we ran, we might never see Orsted again.

What other choice did we have?

Use some kind of tool? Get him a box of cakes, say hello and kiss up to him...?

"Uhh, what if we just asked him to give us the thing?"

"Nope. Tried talking to him, but it didn't work. He just flips all of a sudden. Seriously vicious. Like some kind of serial killer."

"You make it sound like some kind of shock comedy video! No one snaps like that for real, right? Maybe you said something? Something that rubbed him the wrong way?"

"Well, yeah, I'm totally clueless socially, but I only said one or two words, and...oh."

Subaru put his hand to his mouth. It looked like he'd figured something out.

"Hitogami."

I knew that name too.

"Yeah...I asked him if he knew Hitogami, and after he said he did, suddenly..."



Oh, I get it.

He thought we were on Hitogami's side.

Orsted must really have hated Hitogami. Hated him so much that he'd kill anyone associated with him. I understood. I understood how much he hated him. I mean, I didn't like him, either.

"Well, now that we've got an idea about how to solve this peacefully, let's go!"

"Yeah!"

Subaru looked a lot more hopeful. Even his voice was cheerful now.

Of course, we still don't know if Orsted would give us the tool. But it was a lot more constructive than picking a fight we couldn't win.

I didn't want to die either, you know.

I got a second chance, but in general, you only live once. At the end of the day, given a choice, I'd like to go with "love and peace."



Finally, we made it to the Red Dragon's Mandible. Ruijerd and Eris weren't here this time.

We decided that just Subaru and I should go, because of how the others like to fight. Plus, according to Subaru, if it turned into a battle, they didn't stand a chance.

After all that, if a bunch of bad guys appeared and Subaru said, "Hey, you seriously believed all that?" I'd just have to cry, lie on the ground, and hand over my

wallet.

But that wasn't what happened.

"That's him."

At Subaru's terrified words, I looked up the road.

A shady guy was walking up the trail.

He wore a white coat, had flowing silver hair, and glared ahead, his aura bristling with intimidation.

Was he walking so fast because he had some kind of pressing business...?

"It's going to take some courage to talk to him," I said.

"Seriously," said Subaru. "You have to be careful, or before you know it, his hand'll be sticking through your chest."

"It's all right. I hid a coin in my chest pocket just now."

"Oh, great, no worries then! When push comes to shove, that coin'll totally save your life...not."

"Okay," I said. "Then I'll add another two. That makes three. I'm totally covered."

"Do you seriously believe in lucky coins or something?! Orsted is not the kind of guy who'll give in to bribery, you know. You have to get serious here!"

"I know."

I just wanted to lighten things up, that's all.

Orsted was close now. This was it.

"*Ahem.* I see you are Lord Orsted, the Dragon God."

The look he gave me was so fierce that you could practically hear sparks fly. "Who're you? I don't



recognize your faces.”

“Oh, where are my manners? I am Rudeus Greyrat.”

“Greyrat... Whose son are you?”

“I am the son of a perverted bastard named Paul Greyrat. Er, whoops! By ‘perverted,’ I’m not referring to what’s between his legs, but rather...”

“...”

Huh? For some reason, the hair on my neck rose.

Was that reaction really because of Paul? That bastard, his bad reptuation had started to spread.

Orsted shifted his gaze. “And that one’s name?”

“N...Natsuki Subaru.”

“Never heard of you.”

“P-probably not.”

Subaru’s eyes darted around furtively. Not good. We had to be friendly here. After all, we had to convince him to give us the magical tool.

“What do you want?”

“Well, it’s like this, you see. I heard a rumor that you, Lord Orsted, have on your person a certain magical tool that we have been searching after for many years, and finally...”

Before I knew it, Orsted was looking at me.

Motionless. Like he was looking into my soul.

“Umm, is something wrong...?”

“You’re not afraid of me, are you?”

“Umm, no, although you are pretty scary...”

Whoops. Maybe it would’ve been better to say we were afraid? It’s a gangster’s job to scare people, after



all. Could be he made that scary face on purpose to scare people, like some kind of draconic mafioso.

“Fine. Magical tool. You mean this?” Orsted pulled out something shaped like a pocket watch.

I looked at Subaru. I’m sure he nodded.

I beamed and held out my hands. “Ooh, thank you very much! I would expect nothing less of the Dragon God! Such generosity! No wonder everyone holds you in such awe.”

“Who said I would give it to you?”

“Oh, right.”

Humph, no good, huh? I thought he’d just go with the flow.

Orsted wondered: “What can this magical tool do? Why do you want it? And who told you I had it?”

So he wasn’t asking for something in return. I guess the last question was the most important one. It looked like he *wanted* us to mention Hitogami?

I looked at Subaru, and his eyes were like, “So what’ll we do now?” Calm down, buddy. Despite appearances, I was pretty good at lying my way out of things.

“That magical tool is a memento of his mother’s. He dropped it somewhere in the Kingdom of Asura and put in a quest at the guild for it. Then we got some information saying that the Dragon God Orsted had it! We then chased down some information about you, Lord Orsted, deduced that you would pass through here, and waited for you. That’s about it. Oh, and since it

takes so much magic, we've never used it. Not even we know what it can do."

Tee hee. It all just slid off my tongue.

"Heeey, please?" said Subaru, playing along. "It might not be worth anything to you, but it's really important to me, y'see."

"You. Your mother's name is?"

"What...? It's Naoko, but why...?"

"Never heard of her."

"W-well, yeah. I mean, she's not famous or anything. I'd be surprised if you had heard of her!"

Orsted's eyes were shrewd. Subaru was bluffing as hard as he could, but he was sweating buckets. When Orsted put his hand on his chin, Subaru trembled and guarded his chest. He was acting really suspicious.

Orsted thought for a while.

"Paul's son and Natsuki Subaru... Hanahoshi, and all of you... I have not seen this pattern before. Maybe I'll see where it takes me..."

He nodded slightly.

Looks like it worked!

"Fine. Take it," said Orsted, casually throwing the magical tool to Subaru.

Subaru fumbled, and caught it.

"Th-thank you!"

I bowed. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw Subaru bowing too. We were Japanese, after all. Our heads were light and our backs bent easily.

"We will never forget our debt to you!"



“No, seriously, I’ll tell all my kids and have them tell their kids too. We’ll practically worship you, Lord Dragon God!” Subaru said as he turned around.

There was no need to stick around. We needed to get away from there before we said something bad.

“Wait.”

But it was never that easy.

“Answer me this before you go.”

I knew this was coming. I was ready for this question, and only this question, from the beginning. I was going to keep up a poker face and just go with the flow.

“Do you know someone called Hitogami?”

Even so, my shoulders jumped.

They jumped so much that anyone would be suspicious.

At that moment, I knew. I couldn’t possibly get past the question. No matter how or when he asked, I’d always react like this.

“S-sure don’t.”

The words slipped right out of my shaking mouth.

“So you *do* know.”

I felt his murderous intent growing behind me.

“Run, Rudeus!”

I took off running the instant Subaru yelled.

“Shamak!”

My eyes were engulfed in darkness. I lost all feeling. I guess Subaru must have used some kind of power.



The only thing I knew was that my feet were on the ground. It was almost as if I was running on top of a cloud.

Suddenly, the darkness disappeared.

At that moment I knew. This was the end.

“Did you say ‘shamak’? An unusual spell...but such petty distractions will not work on me.”

Orsted was right before my eyes.

“Speak. What did Hitogami tell you? What do you intend to do with the magical tool?”



“Well...that is...”

I opened my mouth. The least I could do was tell Subaru, at the end.

“Subaru! I’ll help you in any world...so go! Take the tool and use my—”

Orsted’s arm pierced my chest. I couldn’t breathe. Something bubbled out of my throat.

I was going to die.

In the face of such unacknowledgeable truth, I didn’t have time to think. My consciousness was swiftly fading.

The last thing I saw was Subaru’s face, flush with despair and regret, as he gritted his teeth to battle fate.

❖ Chapter 4 ❖

By Nagatsuki Tappei

Hey there, girls and boys, I'm Rudeus Greyrat.

I was reincarnated into another world as a totally hot, good-looking guy, enjoying this second life to the max.

Though honestly, it's really embarrassing calling myself a good-looking guy.

Anyway, I was fueled by the regrets of my past life to live my new one to its fullest. So I'll just have to deal with a little embarrassment and live with pride.

Right now, I was at the Red Dragon's Mandible with my party, made up of Eris and Ruijerd. Due to a grave situation I ended up marooned on the Demon Continent, and now, after many years, the Kingdom of Asura was right before my eyes. I felt great.

"Rudeus."

"Hmm?"

I was heading out of the inn when a young man called me by name.

I'd never seen him before, but when I laid eyes on him, it hit me like a bolt of lightning.

He had short hair, and his eyes had an evil gaze. He was of average height, and looked about six to seven years older than me. Maybe a high school kid?

It was a while since I thought the phrase "high



school kid,” but I think it fit him.

Why? Because he was standing in a tracksuit.

It didn’t look like a school uniform, but the materials, the zippers, and the way the seams were made were all unfamiliar here... It was technology from another world.

Another world. Yes, he was someone from another world.

Like me. I guess I wasn’t so special after all. There were other people in a similar situation.

If there was a problem, it was the fact that he’d said my name. If his voice had a hint of malice or ill will, I would’ve been on my guard.

But it didn’t.

What I heard in his voice wasn’t malice, but trust.

That was strange, wasn’t it? It was the first time I’d met him. I knew I’d never met him in my previous life, either. But that absolute trust in me, for some reason, was enough to get through to me.

“Can you help me?”

I nodded immediately. “Of course.”

He smiled.

“Yeah,” he said, laughing. “I thought you’d say that. No, I knew.”



“I’m going to tell you something that doesn’t make sense. Please just listen, okay?”

Natsuki Subaru, that was his name. After he



introduced himself, he kept talking.

He asked me to listen. I quietly lent an ear behind a not-too-popular inn.

“Rudeus, I really owe you. I’ve never worked so hard to overcome anything before. I’ve never involved friends before, either.”

As predicted, what Subaru said made no sense.

I had never done anything to warrant him owing me anything, but I couldn’t decide if I should interrupt.

If someone’s serious, it was right to be serious back.

“We tried this and that and the other thing, and it all failed. So many times! I got so tired of it. To be honest, it’s a pathetic story, and I’m on the verge of giving up, but...”

“But?”

“But you said, you know. That you’d help me in any world.”

Subaru grabbed at his chest. His face was rigid with uncertainty and nervousness, like a child who was afraid of getting in trouble. Only he immediately exhaled and looked relieved.

“So that’s okay then. As usual, I have no clue what’s going on...”

While I was watching Subaru get that off his chest, I came up with a hypothesis.

Subaru said “any world.” He also really trusted me, but I’d never met him before.

What I took from that was, this initial meeting with Subaru wasn’t really the first time we’d met.



Going back in time.

That phrase kept going through my mind.

I thought of the possibility that he could predict the future, but the way Subaru interacted with me had this more grounded feeling. It felt real. You can't feel close to someone like that unless you had really met, talked, and been friendly before.

Then I thought that the me-from-before must've got along well with Subaru. But there was something about that which made me a little uncomfortable.

Had Subaru and I met many times?

"Rudeus...you catch on so quick."

"I didn't say anything?"

"You don't have to. I can see it in your face. ...It's really creepy saying stuff like that, you know. That wasn't a come-on! I already have someone I like!"

"Sorry, Subaru. Let's just be friends."

"Sorry, Rudeus. It's not you—it's me."

That was a decent comeback. Subaru and I could probably pull off an okay comedy routine if we set our minds to it. We had an instinctive rapport. Even though I'd just met him, we could already sling around banter like it was no big deal.

"Ha haaa... W-well, let's get back to business? Oh, and I'll tell you up front. You don't have to worry anymore."



“Meaning...?”

“This is probably the last time we’ll meet.”

As he said that, Subaru put his hand into the pocket of his tracksuit, and showed me something.

It looked like a pocket watch.

“And this clock-looking thing is?”

“It’s a magical tool. A *special* magical tool.”

The chain jingled. Subaru gripped the watch—no, the magical tool—as if it were something precious.

“My goal was to get my hands on this. It’s the culmination of all the adventures of Natsuki Subaru and Rudeus Greyr... Ack!”

“Wh-what’s wrong?!”

Subaru suddenly grabbed at his chest and fell over.

I caught the magical tool in a flurry. His sudden seizure freaked me out. “You all right? Did something happen?! Is it the magical tool?”

“N-no, it has nothing to do with that... Ungh. Urgh! It’s like I stepped on a landmine. Crap, I let my guard down. Come on, that was a low blow...”

“Who’re you complaining to...?”

I helped Subaru to his feet and patted the dirt off him as he cussed. Then I gave him back the magical tool.

“Here. Take care of it. You worked pretty hard to get this thing, right? You wanted to tell me because I’m from the same place as you...”

“That’s not it, Rudeus. This is our victory,” he said in a strong voice. “Yours and mine.” Subaru took the



magical tool. “We really suffered to get our hands on this. To be honest, you died...or you almost died, and even then we failed. When I thought it was never going to happen, you told me.”

I told him something. So that’s what turned the tables? What kind of advice did I give? I mean, I’m doing better now, but I was such a pathetic failure in my past life. What could I have said?

“It’s easy. You said to talk to him.”

“It was that easy...?”

“Don’t be stupid! Of course it wasn’t easy! Who do you think it was?! It’s was Orsted, who makes crying kids cry more!”

“You’re the one who made it sound easy, aren’t you?” Now he was mad at me?! Who the heck was Orsted, anyway?! Someone you had to apologize to in Hell?

“That’s right. It wasn’t easy. After all, he wasn’t the type of person you could just talk to. Plus, he’s stronger than you can imagine. Even Ruijerd didn’t stand a chance against him.”

“I won’t let you make fun of Ruijerd.”

“I’m not making fun of him. Ruijerd’s a really great guy. The best. A man’s man.”

“So you know him, then.”

Subaru and I exchanged a firm handshake.

Anyone who knew how great Ruijerd was couldn’t be bad. That was the moment when I think Subaru and I understood each other best.



Anyway, back to the story...

“We kept attacking this dangerous guy. We tried a lot of times...well, about ten times...and finally, we got him to give it to us.

“I see. That’s gr...”

I was about to say it was great, but the words caught in my throat.

Subaru’s expression stopped me.

“...”

This morning was the first time I’d met Subaru. He told me about stuff I didn’t know, and I was just nodding in agreement.

Should I really say “that’s great” like it all didn’t matter?

Subaru had told me about these inhuman efforts lightly. Even so, that didn’t mean it was easy. Of course, he wouldn’t take all the credit. Subaru was grateful to me. Well, to the me from another world. Ruijerd and Eris might even have helped out. If they hadn’t, why did he think so highly of Ruijerd?

This story that I didn’t know was all because of inhuman efforts that I also didn’t know about.

He tried really hard. I’m sure Subaru’s special power had limits. But, despite all that, he tried really hard.

When I tried really hard, what did my friends do? What did they say?

Roxy and Sylphie, Paul and Zenith, Eris and Ruijerd—what did they do?

“Subaru.”

“Y-yeah? My bad. My bad. I guess I was basking in the glory of a job well done, and...”

“You really tried hard, didn’t you?”

“Yeah...”



Did I say it right? Like those people who were good to me?

Like my friends did for me? Did I say it kindly?

With all the hard work Subaru did, would my words make it worthwhile?

I wasn’t sure they would.

Still...

Subaru let out a short, shaking sigh and scrunched up his hair. Tears welled up in the corners of his eyes.

I slowly turned around.

It looked like he was my friend, and even I know that a man doesn’t want his friends to see him cry.

And so I didn’t look at him.

However long it took before he was done crying, it was nothing compared to the path he’d taken.





“Sorry for losing it,” said Subaru, with a very red nose.

Since I was his friend, I didn’t draw attention to it.

Either way, I got his situation. “And now that you’ve got your hands on the magical tool, what’re you going to do? If you don’t have a place to stay...”

“No, I have a place to be. This thing will...it’s supposed get me back to my old world.”

“You’re returning home?”

My heart jumped deep in my chest.

It’s not like I hadn’t thought about it. My old world, the world where I lived and died before I came here. The world where I lived my past life.

“It’s a hassle to explain it, but that’s not exactly right. The world I want to return to is...another other world.”

“Huh? What do you mean?”

“It means I tripped off to another world once, and came to this world after. And the world I have to get back to is the one right before this one.”

“Well, you’ve clearly had quite a few ups and downs...”

According to Subaru, this was his second other world. He figured that out when he met Hitogami in a dream. That shady god told Subaru about the magical tool he needed to return, and that some dangerous guy had it. It made me suspicious. I wasn’t sure I could believe that Hitogami would help someone.

“The magical tool needs a huge amount of magic to make it work. That’s why Hitogami mentioned you.”



“I see. Okay, got it. Are you ready?”

“...”

I took another long look at the magical tool and...

Subaru's eyes opened really wide.

What? Did I say something wrong?

“No, I knew you'd just do it. You going to be all right in this dangerous world, being a good Samaritan and all that? Won't someone trick you into being a slave?”

“Naw, getting thrown in prison butt naked was about the worst of it.”

“Dude! Hardcore!”

After all, I'd lived in another world for quite a while now. I had stories about the hardships I'd overcome too. Although the got-imprisoned-naked episode was, in fact, pretty hardcore.

Anyway, we talked like that for a bit and then a strange silence came between us.

It wasn't uncomfortable. It was just that the time had come. I think Subaru felt it, too.

“You just fill it up with magic, right?”

“Dunno. It didn't come with instructions, and I haven't ever used it. Don't break it now.”

“What'll you do if I break it?”

“Pretty sure my heart'd break along with it.”

Whoa, scary. Quite a heavy responsibility. I couldn't afford to screw up.

I held the magical tool carefully, and took a deep breath. Then I imagined magical power flowing into the



tool.

“Huh? Whoa!”

The next second, it was like I was feeding a greedy monster. It was sucking the magic right out of me.

It felt like it was going to suck me dry. For someone with less magic, this would have been impossible. But I’d pretty much figured out that my magical power was my only saving grace here. This much? I could handle it.

“Annnd...done.”

“Whooooa! Amazing! I’d expect no less from the mighty Rudy!”

You know, it’s hard to feel mighty with him using my nickname like that. But I guess it was worth being sucked dry if it made him that happy.

I fixed my grip on the magical tool and held it out to Subaru. He took it fearfully.

“Then I just push that button on the top, I guess?”

“Probably. I don’t think it’ll explode or anything.”

“What’ll you do if it does explode?”

“Well...I put a whoooole lot of magic into this thing, so...die, I guess?”

Well, that probably wouldn’t happen, right?

And so everything was ready. As for the rest...

“Rudeus,” Subaru said, looking straight at me. “You might be able to return to your old world with this too, you know. You reincarnated here from another world, right? I mean, I haven’t been here long, but I can tell this isn’t an easy world to live in. So...”



“But you’re not going back to Earth either, are you, Subaru?” I shook my head at his kind but seductive offer.

I knew he was thinking of me. He couldn’t help but offer. I would’ve done the same.

It wasn’t that I didn’t like my old world. That world had its good parts. He wasn’t joking about this world being hard, either.

But...

“I decided that I was going to live life seriously this time, in this world.”

And so I had.

Do-overs didn’t come easy. This was my second chance, and I would do the best I could.

“So you’re getting serious in this parallel world, huh? I guess people like us can’t help ourselves.”

“Guess not. That’s why we’ve got to help each other out, right?”

“Yeah, you’re right!” Subaru laughed it off.

He held out the magical tool and pushed the button.

The next second, a magical circle appeared beneath him, shimmering with green light. I could tell that the magic inside the tool with was cycling furiously.

A faint, radiant aura appeared and engulfed Subaru.

It wasn’t disturbing. In fact, it was a gentle light.

I knew it would take him back to where he came from.

Bathed in that green glow, Subaru smiled at me.

“Rudeus, thanks for everything, okay?”



Suddenly, I didn't know what to say. Was "live long and prosper" or "take care" okay?

What should I say to someone who shared the same home world as me—about to depart to yet another?

While I was wondering what to say, Subaru said something totally unexpected. "Your fate's changed. You don't have to die. So live long and prosper, okay?"

Fate? I was going to die? What in the world was he talking about?

Before I could ask, his smile was engulfed in the light.

"You idiot," I shouted. "Make sure *you* don't die before we meet again!"

Subaru looked caught off guard. "I don't want to die, either, if at all possible. But, y'know...whatever happens, happens."

It sounded like he'd made his peace with that risk, a long time ago.



I dropped my hands and cocked my head.

"Huh? What was I doing?"

I was standing, spaced out, at the back of the inn. I knew I'd hit puberty and all, and sometimes I needed some time to myself, but this wasn't like that.

"And why does my body feel so heavy...? It's the same kind of tired I get when I blast out a lot of magic."

The only thing I was really confident about was how much magic I had, but right now, it was super low.



I was exhausted.

What in the world had happened?

“Hmm. This is weird. But oh well...”

The weirdest thing, weirder than the fatigue, was that I was feeling strangely good.

Almost like I'd done the right thing.

“Or maybe it's more like the feeling of wearing brand new underwear on New Year's morning?”

That was a pretty good way of expressing it, if I did say so myself. That's right. I'd changed my underwear. Or rather, it just felt like I did.

“Rudeus, where are you?! We're about to leave, you know!”

“Oh, Eris. Sorry. I'm over here. This way!”

I heard Eris calling, and I hurried to her side.

Right before I made that first step, I looked up at the sky. I don't know why. I just looked at the blue sky above my head.

“In this world, I'm getting serious about life,” I swore, to no one in particular.

It was almost like I was making a promise to someone.

❖ **The End** ❖

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Illustrations by: Yuka Fujikawa, Character Designs by: Shinichirou Otsuka

CROSSOVER
BONUS! MEOW!

NANAHOSHI'S LOST!

WHAT
?!

CAN'T
TAKE MY
EYES OFF
HER FOR
A SECOND
...

HMM?
NANAHOSHI?
LOST
AGAIN,
HUH.

WAIT!

HEY,
WAI--

HAIR
JUST
LIKE
MINE!
HMM
...!

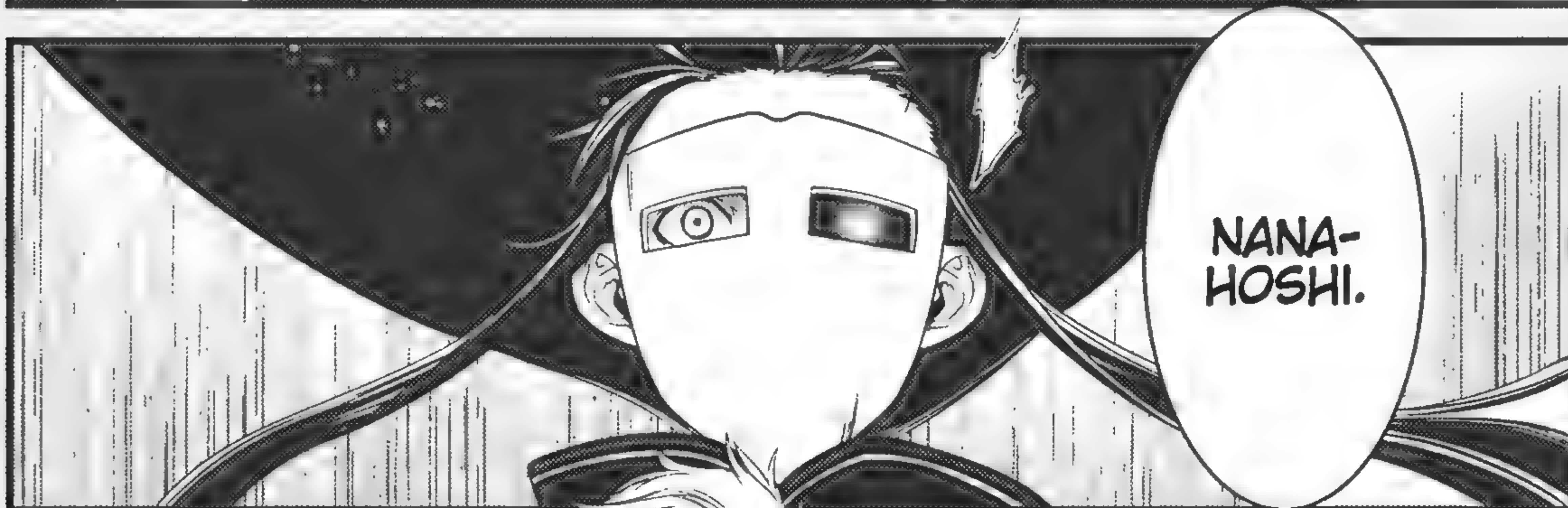
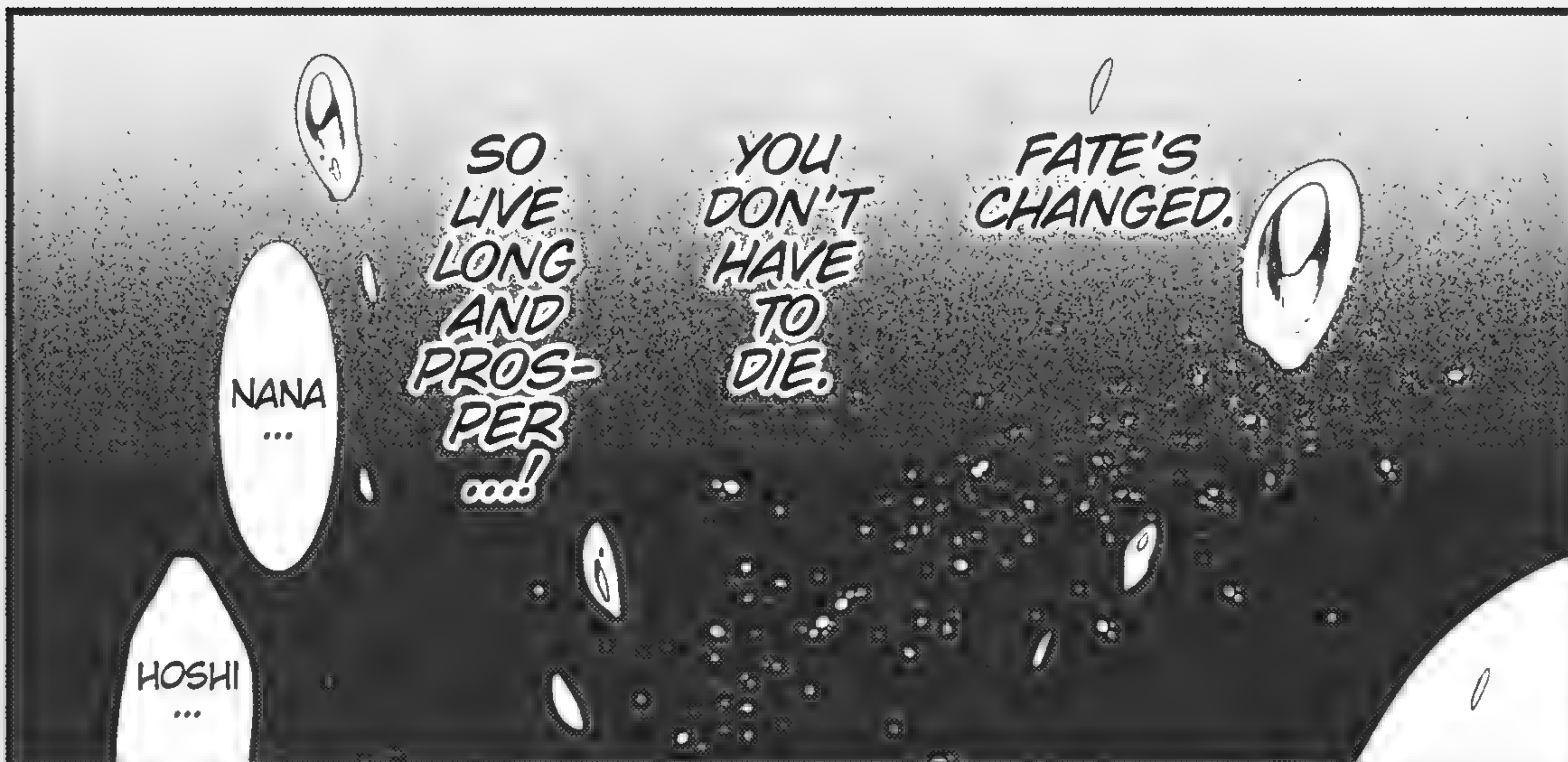
NOW
I CAN
GET
BACK
TO MY
OLD
WORLD!

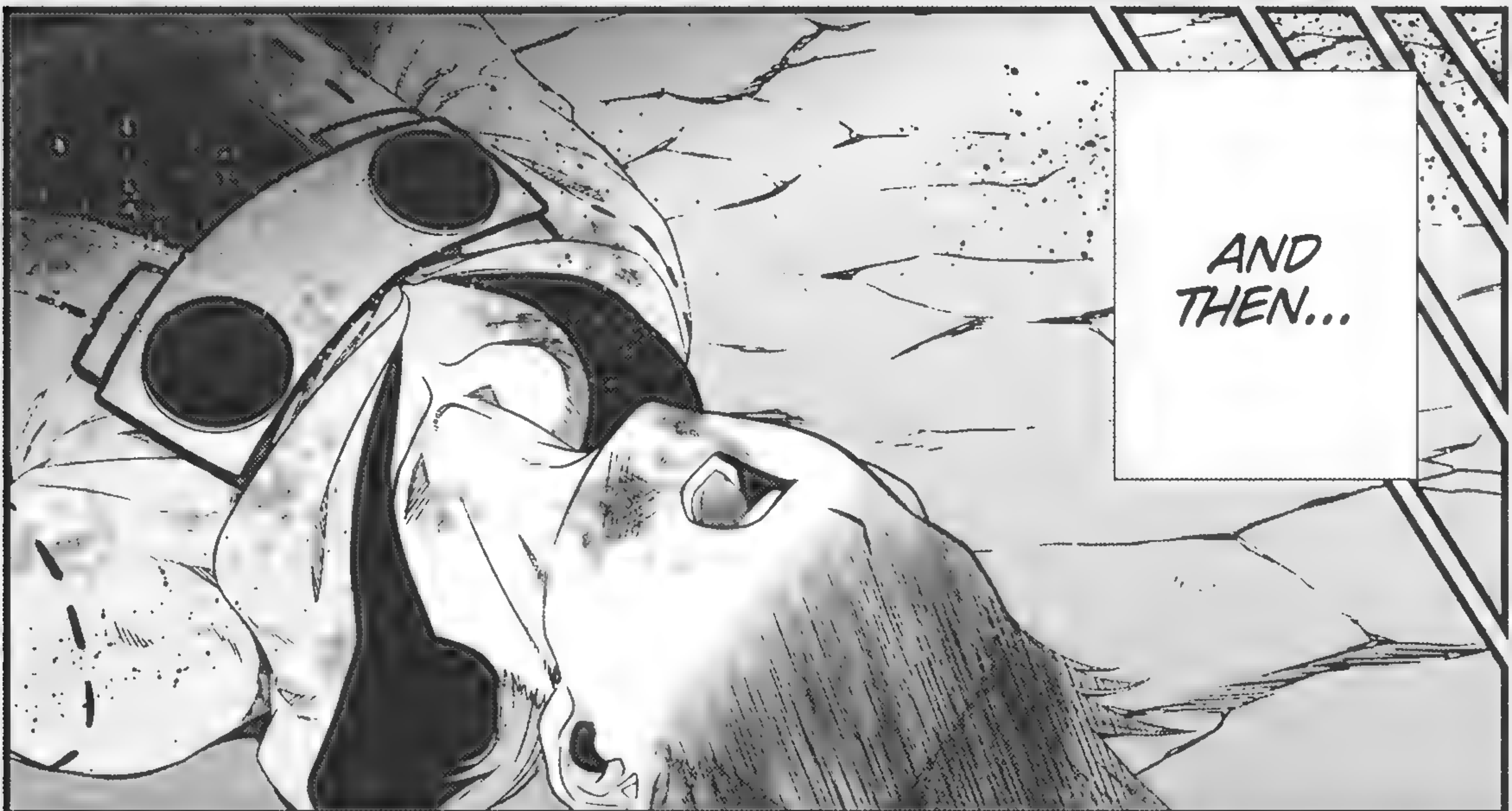
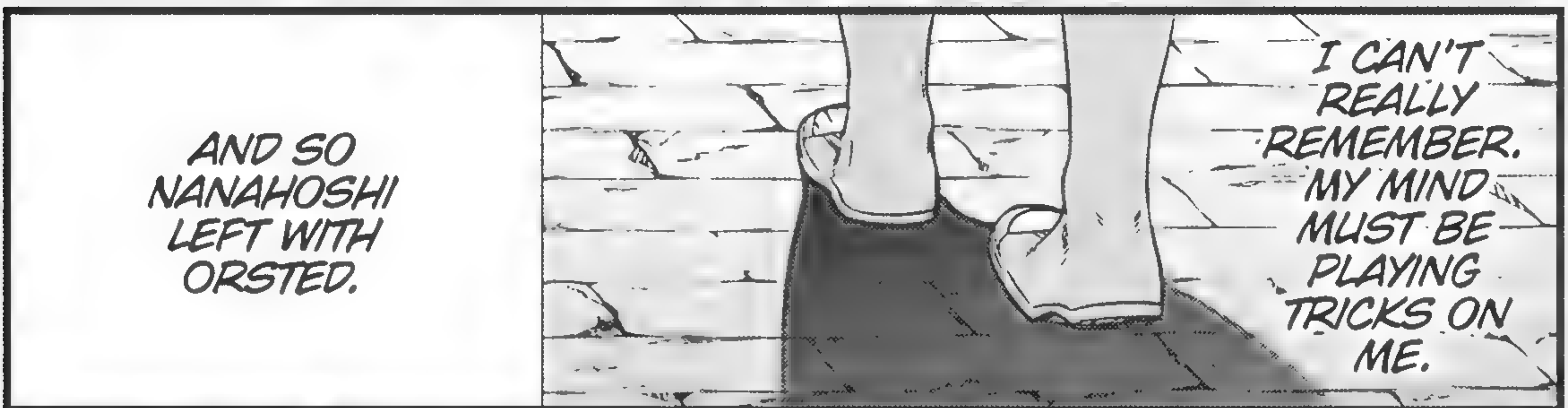
OH! YOU
DID IT,
RUDY!
THANKS!

I FILLED
IT WITH
MAGIC!

HUFF!

HUFF!





Hey...
Orsted?

Some-
thing's
bothering
me.
Wouldn't it
be better
to leave
him alive?

It's
just...

**JUST LIKE
THAT, IT
ALL LOOPS
BACK
TOGETHER!**

And so it all loops back together!

I
BETTER
GO
FIND
HER.

TRUDGE

TRUDGE

ZENITH...



ERIS
CHOSE TO
GO HER
OWN WAY.
NOW,
RUDELIS
FINDS
HIMSELF
ALL
ALONE...
BUT
THEIR
PATHS
WILL
CROSS
AGAIN!

Mushoku Tensei

10

jobless reincarnation

art by YUKA FUJIKAWA
story by RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE
original character design by SHIRO TAKA

THE STORY CONTINUES IN VOLUME 11!

COMING SOON FROM SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT!

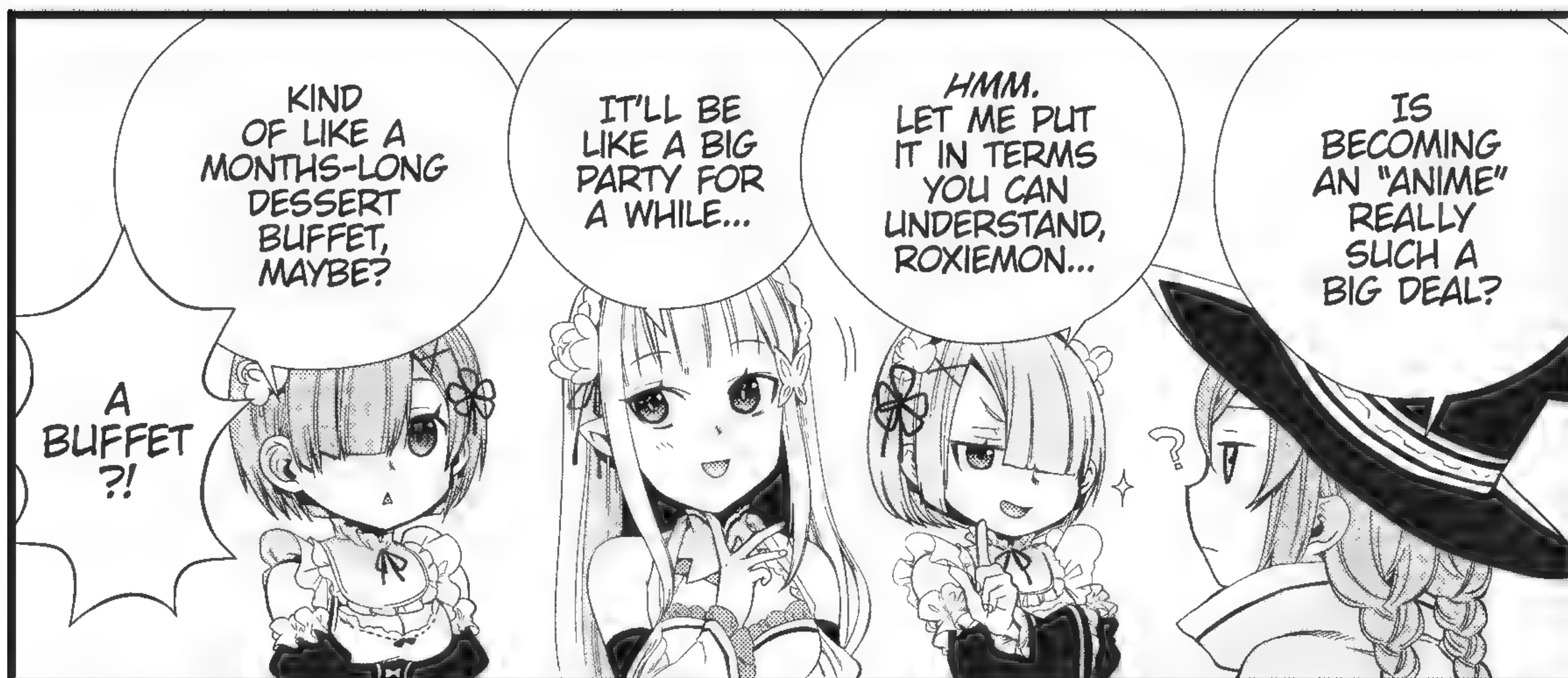
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Mushoku Tensei

Roxy Gets
Serious

A new
spin-off
series
available
now!

art by
SHOKO IWAMI
story by
RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE
character design by **SHIROTAKA**

Roxy's made it to Millishion,
a tough place for demon folk.
Hard days lay ahead—what awaits
in the life of an adventurer?

Roxy's...

POUT

highs...

and lows...

I'll take
on
whatever
you've
got!

I'm
leaving
the
rest...

to
all of
you.

I
lost
you.

She'll soldier on!

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

volume 10

story by RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE / art by YUKA FUJIKAWA / character design by SHIROTAKA

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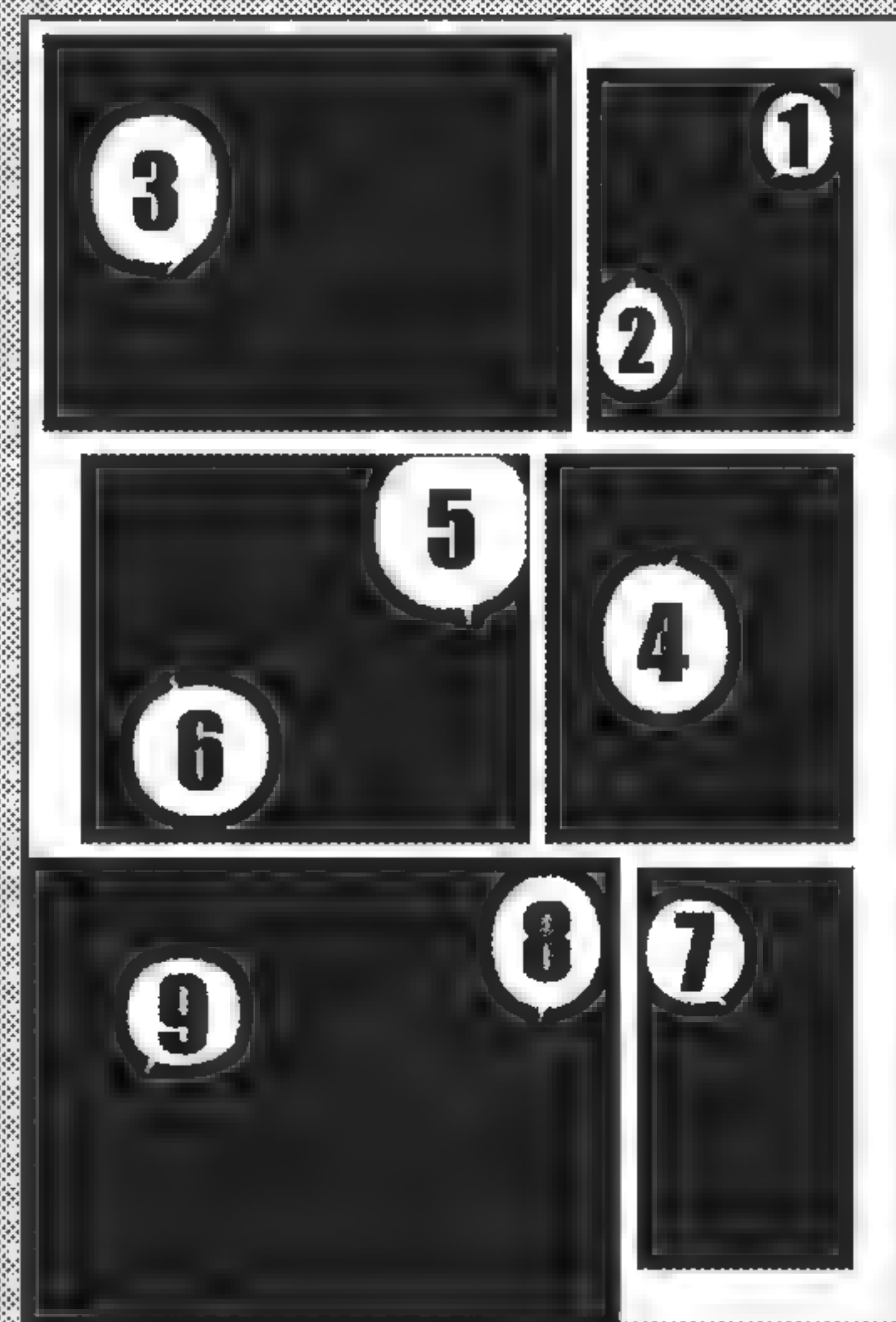
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



HOME COMING

After a disastrous meeting with the deadly, enigmatic Orsted, Rudeus just barely manages to escape with his life. But there is light at the end of the tunnel, because he and his companions have at last reached their destination: Rudeus's home, Fittoa. After a magical calamity flung its denizens around the world, what has become of Fittoa? And what fate awaits those who have finally returned?



Seven Seas Entertainment
sevenseasentertainment.com

FOR MY
FIFTEENTH
BIRTHDAY,
THAT'S
WHAT I
WANT.

BECOME
MY
FAMILY.

RUDEUS.

FAMILY
...?


CHAPTER 51

THE YOUNG LADY'S DECISION





I DON'T
CARE
WHAT THE
RELATION-
SHIP IS.



ER...
DO YOU
MEAN YOU
WANT THE
TWO OF
US TO BE
SIBLINGS?

PAUSE



WHAT'S
THIS
SCENT?
IT'S
SWEET...

YOU
SAY YOU
DON'T
CARE,
BUT...

YOU
MEAN...

PERFUME
...?

YOU,
UH...

I-IT
MEANS
I WANT
TO SLEEP
WITH
YOU.



GAPE...



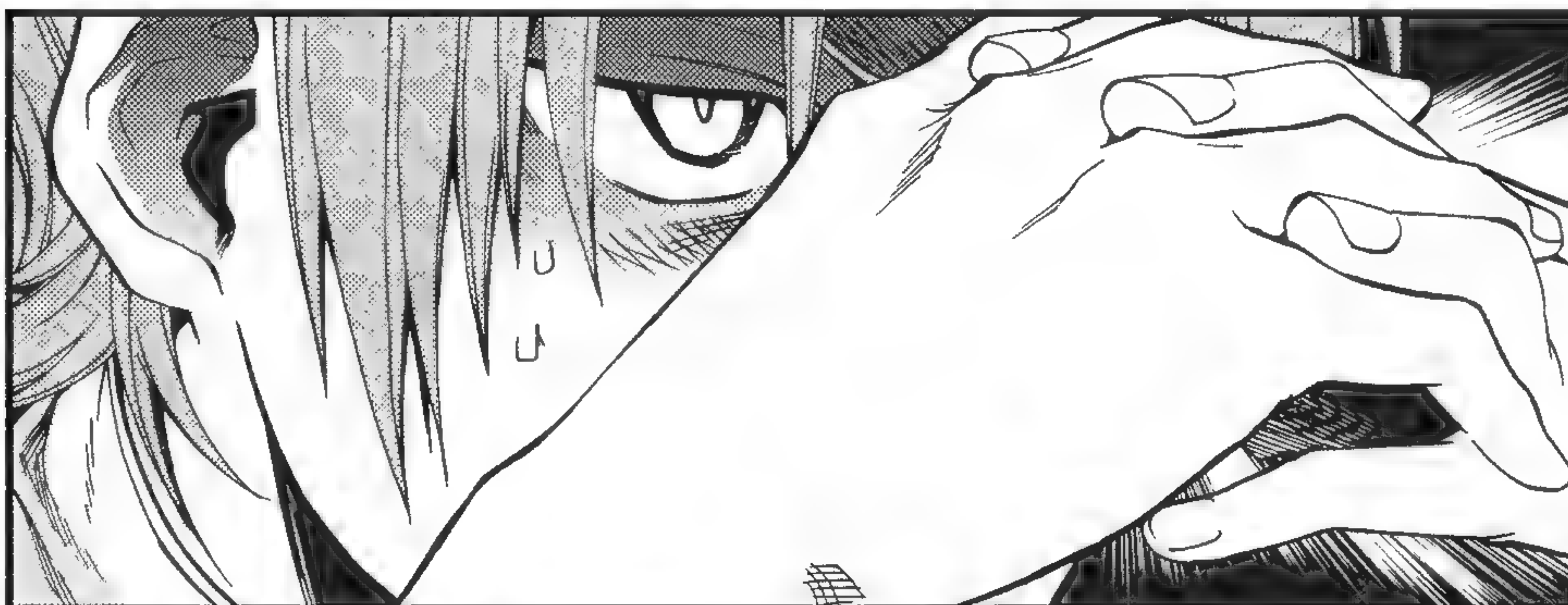
AND OUT



IN



HOLD
ON.
CALM
DOWN
AND
THINK.



I DON'T
THINK I
CAN HOLD
MYSELF
BACK!!

PEER...

I MIGHT
WANT
TO...DO
STUFF,
YOU
KNOW?

I'M
FEELING
PRETTY
LONELY
TONIGHT.



SHE
WANTS
TO
PRETEND
WE'RE
FAMILY,
BUT...

LET'S UNPACK
THIS. ERIS JUST
LOST HER HOME
AND HER FAMILY.
SHE'S IN SHOCK.
SHE WANTS
SOMEONE...
ME...TO STAY
WITH HER.





IF IT'S
US...
TONIGHT.

THAT'S
OKAY.

TH...



I-I
HAVE A
PRETTY
GOOD
IDEA!!

ERIS,
DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
SAYING
?!



POP

F3000

A
A
A
T
?

A
A
A
A
A

W
H
A
A
A



ABSO-
LUTELY
NOT
!!

YOU'RE
NOT
TRYING
TO
PUNISH
YOURSELF
OR SOME-
THING,
ARE
YOU?

REALLY?
SHE'S
SERIOUSLY
OKAY
WITH
THIS?



I DON'T CARE WHICH OF US IT IS!

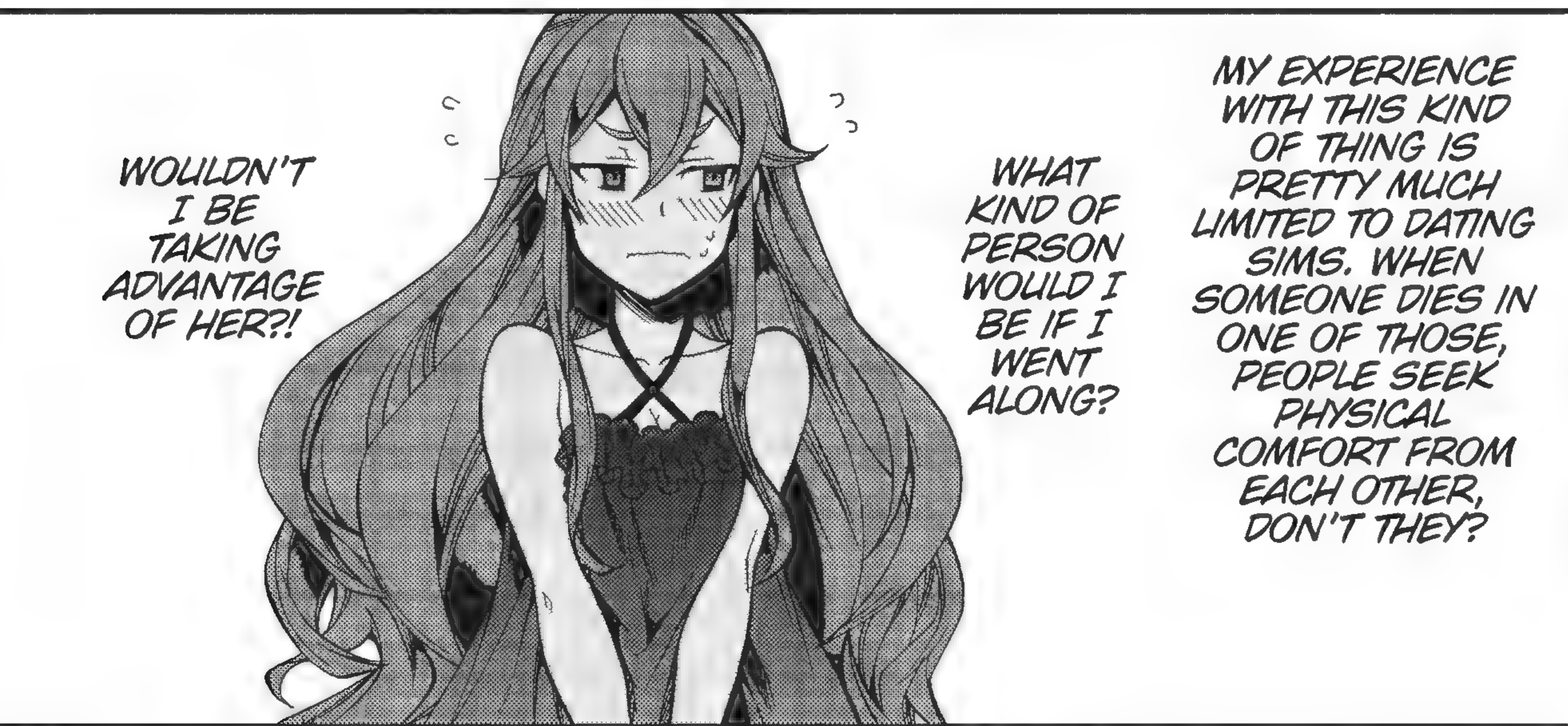
FIRST OFF, THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WHEN I TURNED FIFTEEN, AND--

WELL, I CARE!! I DO!!



BUT WE PROMISED, RIGHT? THAT WHEN I TURN FIFTEEN...

FIDGET...



WOULDN'T I BE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HER?!

WHAT KIND OF PERSON WOULD I BE IF I WENT ALONG?

MY EXPERIENCE WITH THIS KIND OF THING IS PRETTY MUCH LIMITED TO DATING SIMS. WHEN SOMEONE DIES IN ONE OF THOSE, PEOPLE SEEK PHYSICAL COMFORT FROM EACH OTHER, DON'T THEY?



RUDEUS...

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

IF WE DO IT WHEN WE'RE BOTH MESSED UP LIKE THIS, WE MIGHT REGRET IT.



OF
COURSE
I DO!



LURCH

WE'VE
SPENT THE
LAST SIX
YEARS
TOGETHER,
RIGHT?!

OF
COURSE
YOU'RE
IMPOR-
TANT TO
ME!



I DON'T
WANT YOU
TO BECOME
SOME
NOBLE PIG'S
PLAYTHING!



UNTIL
WE BOTH
TRULY
KNOW
THAT
WE'RE
IN LOVE
WITH
EACH
OTHER--

WE
SHOULDN'T
DO ANY-
THING THAT
BIG, THAT
SERIOUS,
WHEN WE'RE
BOTH STRUNG
OUT LIKE
THIS!

BUT
WE
MADE
A PROM-
ISE!

HUH...
I...

HOLD ON.
WHAT
ABOUT
LOVE?



HOW
DO I
FEEL
ABOUT
HER?

HOW
DO
I...



I...

I
SEE.

YOU
DO
WANT
ME,
RIGHT?



YOU
STILL
DON'T
WANT
TO...?

BUT...







RUDELIS
....!

ソノコ

Whoa!



BA-
DUMP

BA-
DUMP

RU...

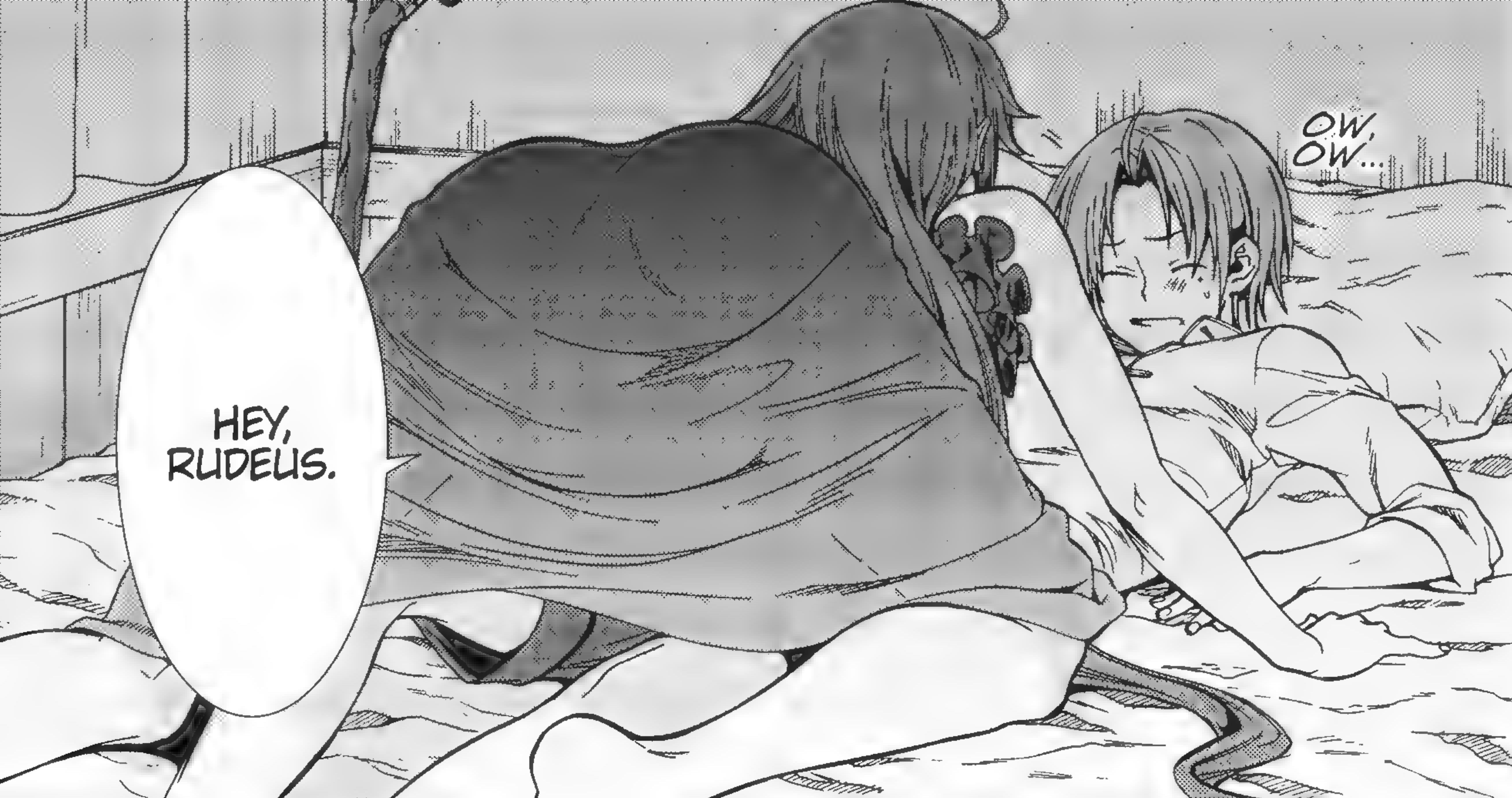
BA-
DUMP

BA-
DUMP

BA-
DUMP

BA-
DUMP

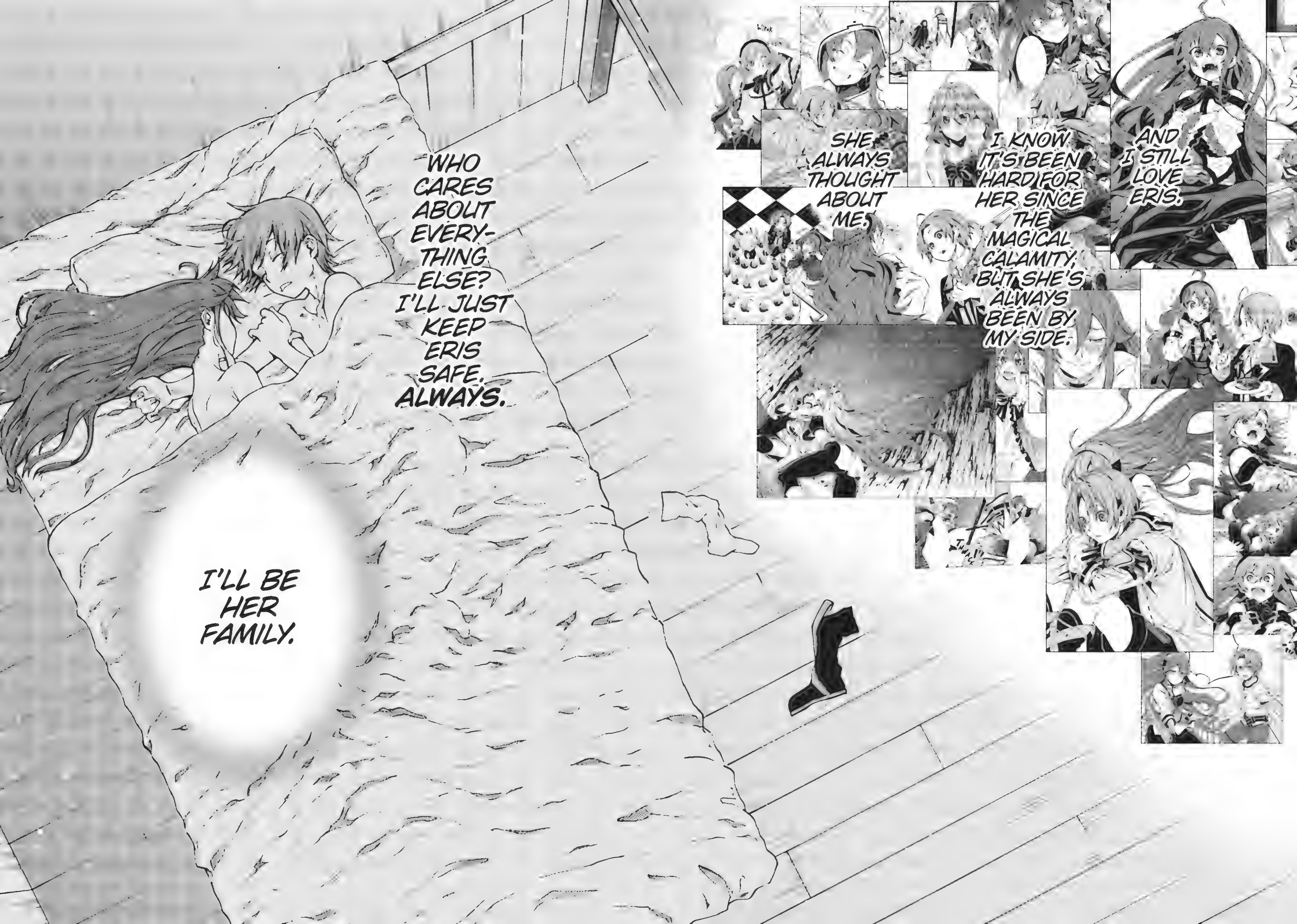






I
LOVED
ERIS.

THAT
NIGHT...



WHO CARES ABOUT EVERYTHING ELSE? I'LL JUST KEEP ERIS SAFE. ALWAYS.

I'LL BE HER FAMILY.



SHE ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT ME.

I KNOW IT'S BEEN HARD FOR HER SINCE THE MAGICAL CALAMITY, BUT SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN BY MY SIDE.

AND I STILL LOVE ERIS.




AS
LONG
AS I'M
WITH
ERIS...

I'M
SURE
THE
FUTURE
WILL
BE A
HAPPY
ONE.



I'M
THINKING
THREE
KIDS
WOULDN'T
BE BAD.

Z
Z
Z
Z
Z
Z
Z



BUT
ACTUALLY,
I'D BE
OKAY WITH
EVEN
MORE.

RUB...







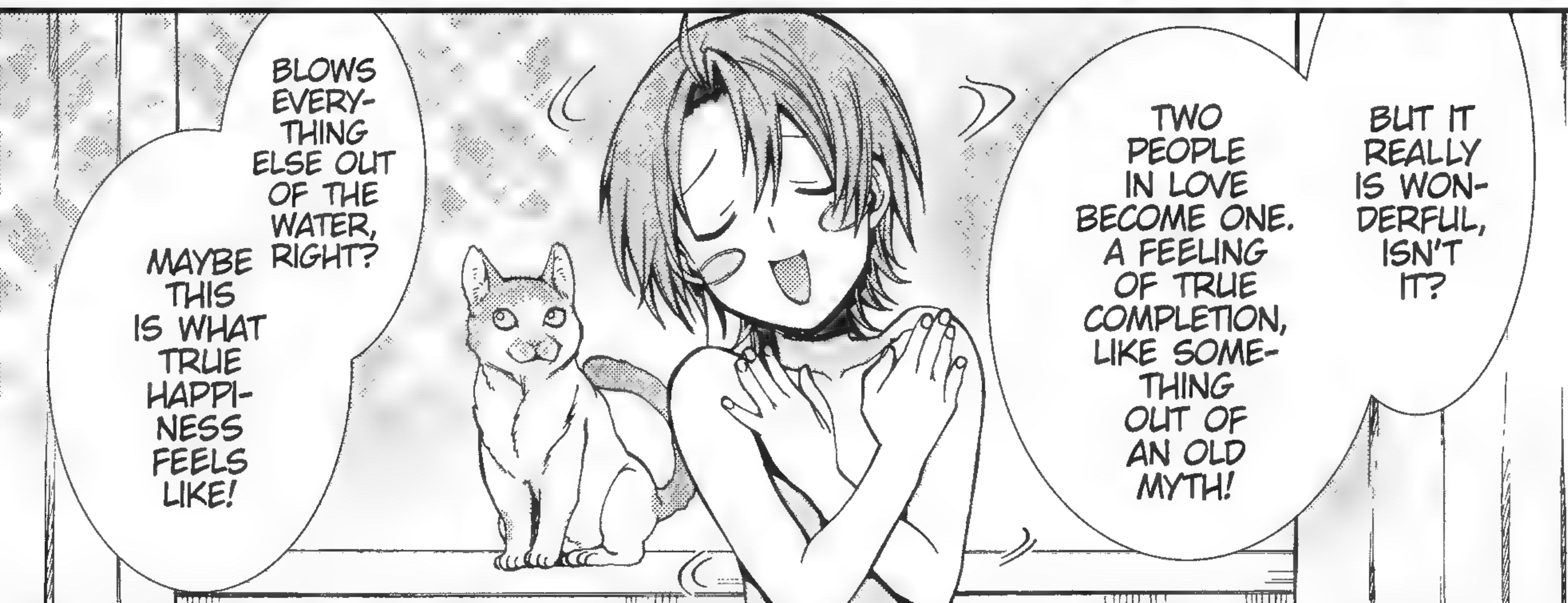
I'M JUST
LIKE THE REST
OF YOU, NOW!
ONE OF THOSE
"NORMIES"
I USED TO
COMPLAIN SO
MUCH ABOUT!



POINT

エビカ
JOLT

AND
HELLO,
HELLO
TO ALL
YOU
NON-
VIRGINS,
TOO!
☆



MAYBE
THIS
IS WHAT
TRUE
HAPPI-
NESS
FEELS
LIKE!

BLOWS
EVERY-
THING
ELSE OUT
OF THE
WATER,
RIGHT?

TWO
PEOPLE
IN LOVE
BECOME ONE.
A FEELING
OF TRUE
COMPLETION,
LIKE SOME-
THING
OUT OF
AN OLD
MYTH!

BUT IT
REALLY
IS WON-
DERFUL,
ISN'T
IT?



WAKE...

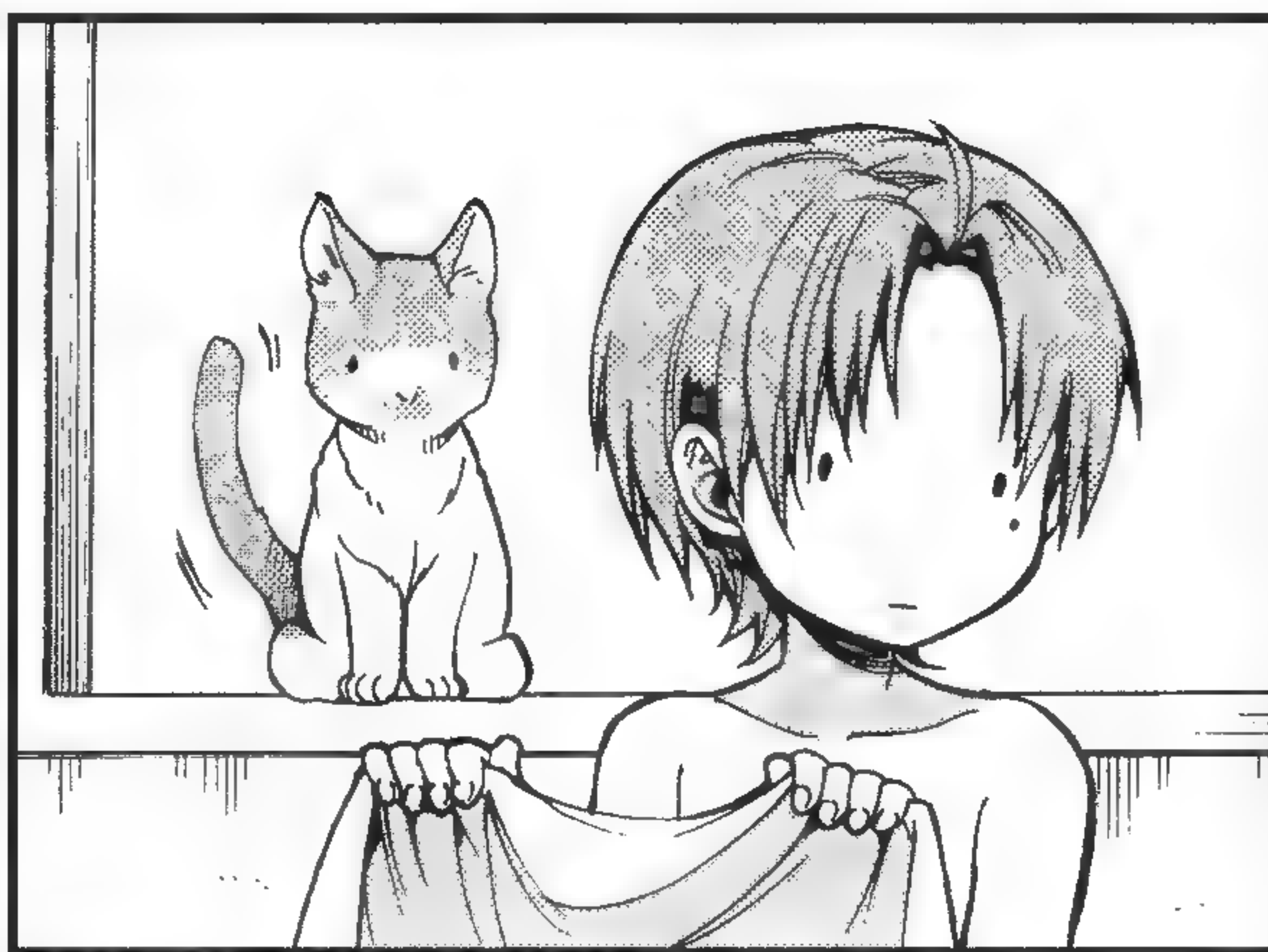
IT'S
MORNING,
SWEET-
HEART!

RUSTLE

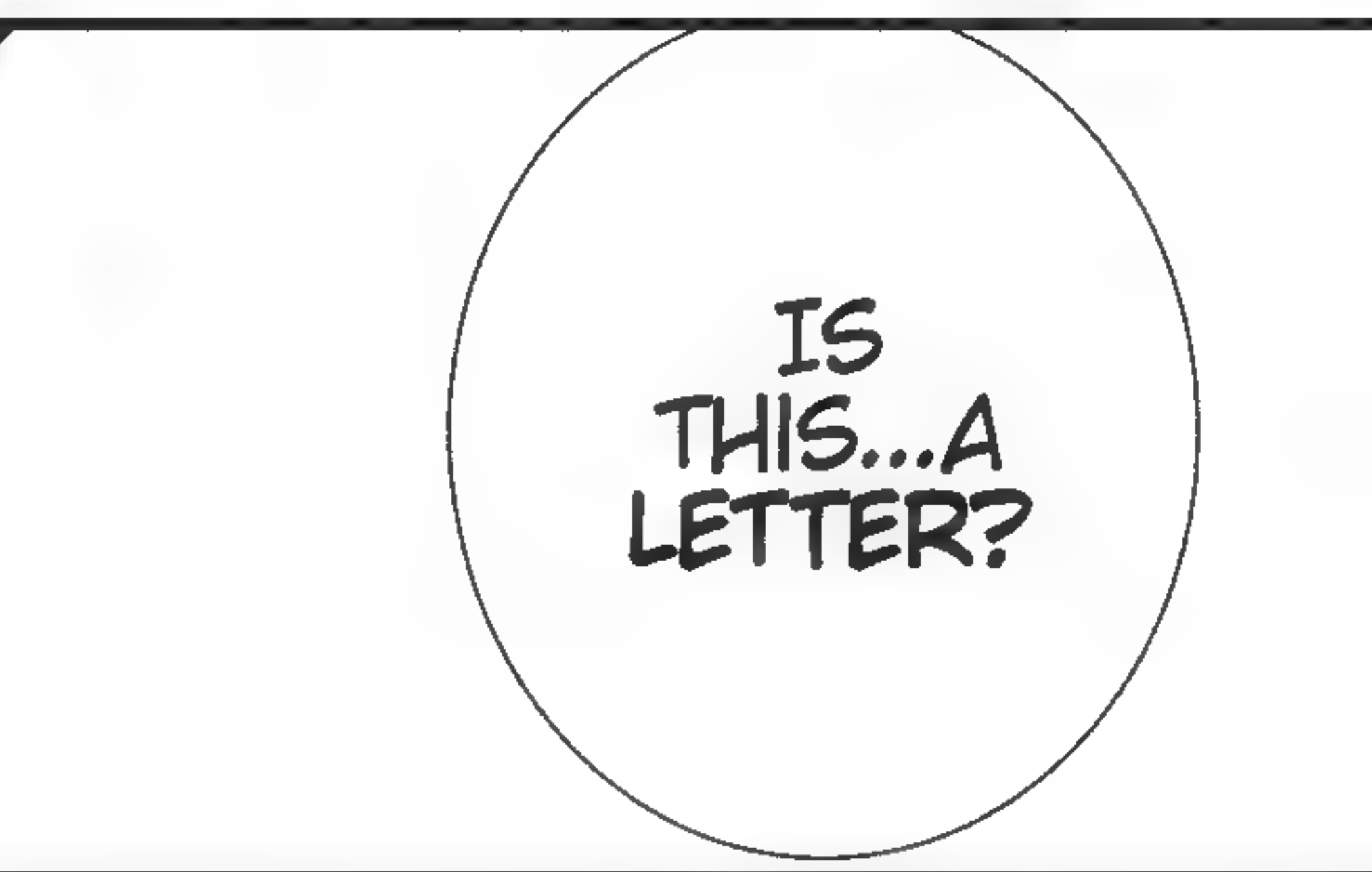


I GOTTA
WAKE UP
MY GIRL-
FRIEND!
☆

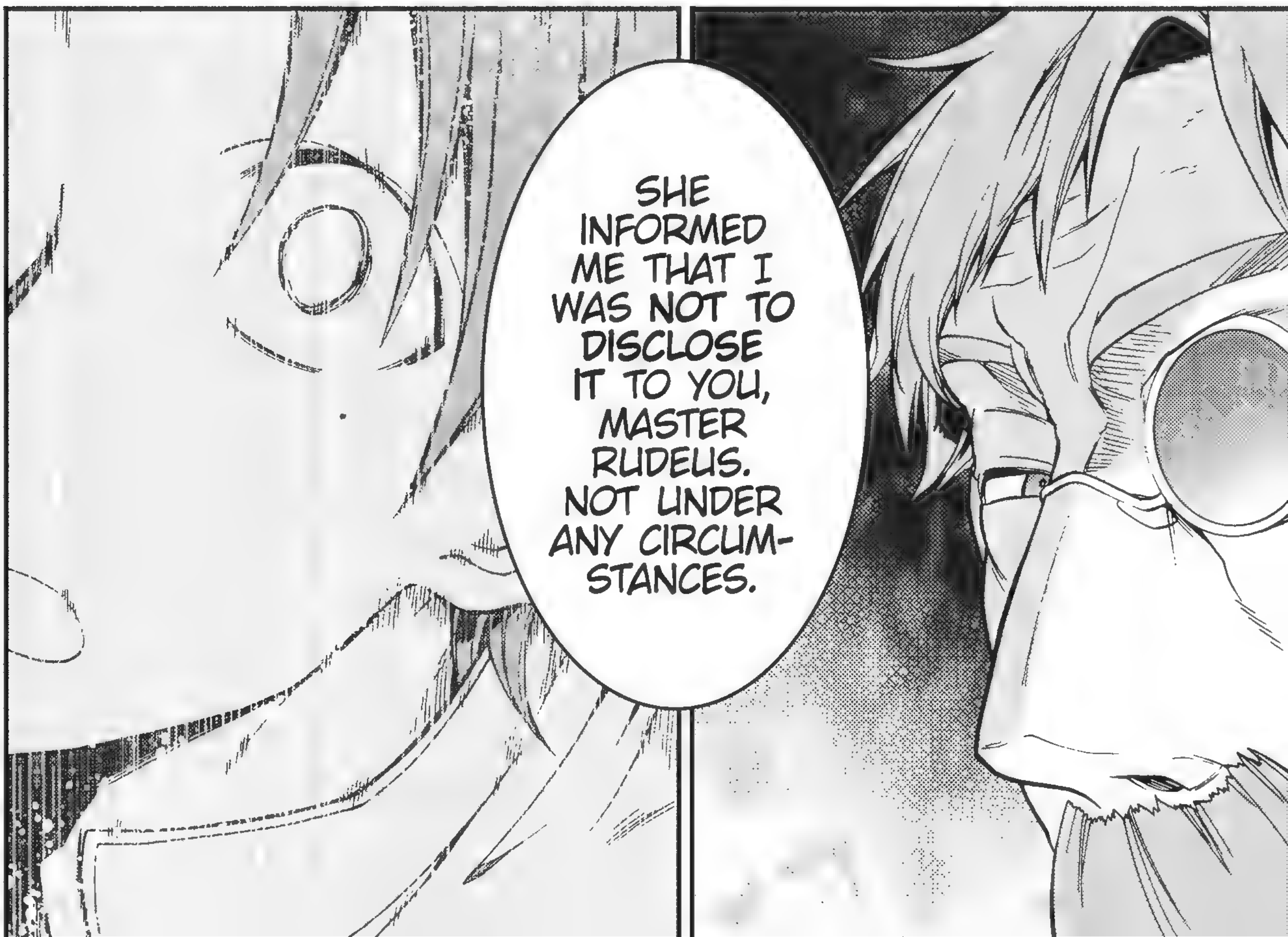
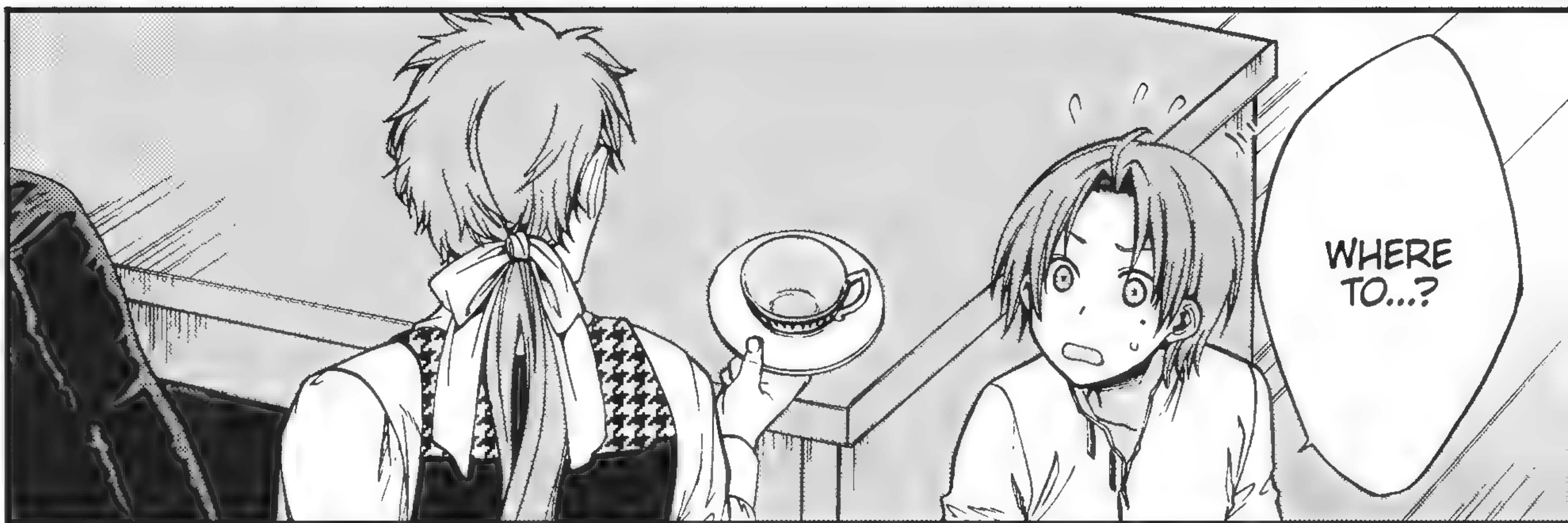
WHOOPS!
IT'S
ALREADY
SO LATE!

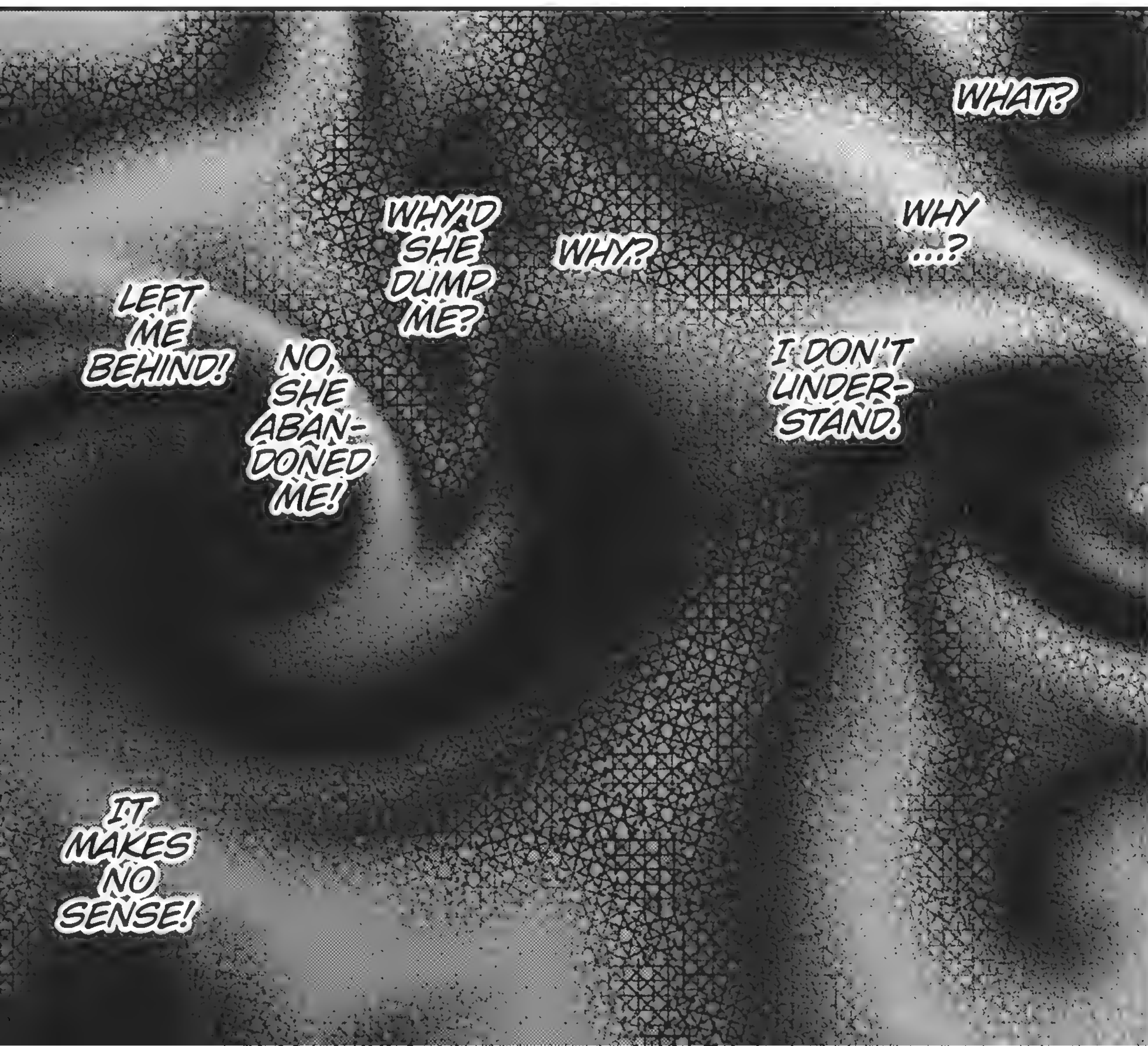
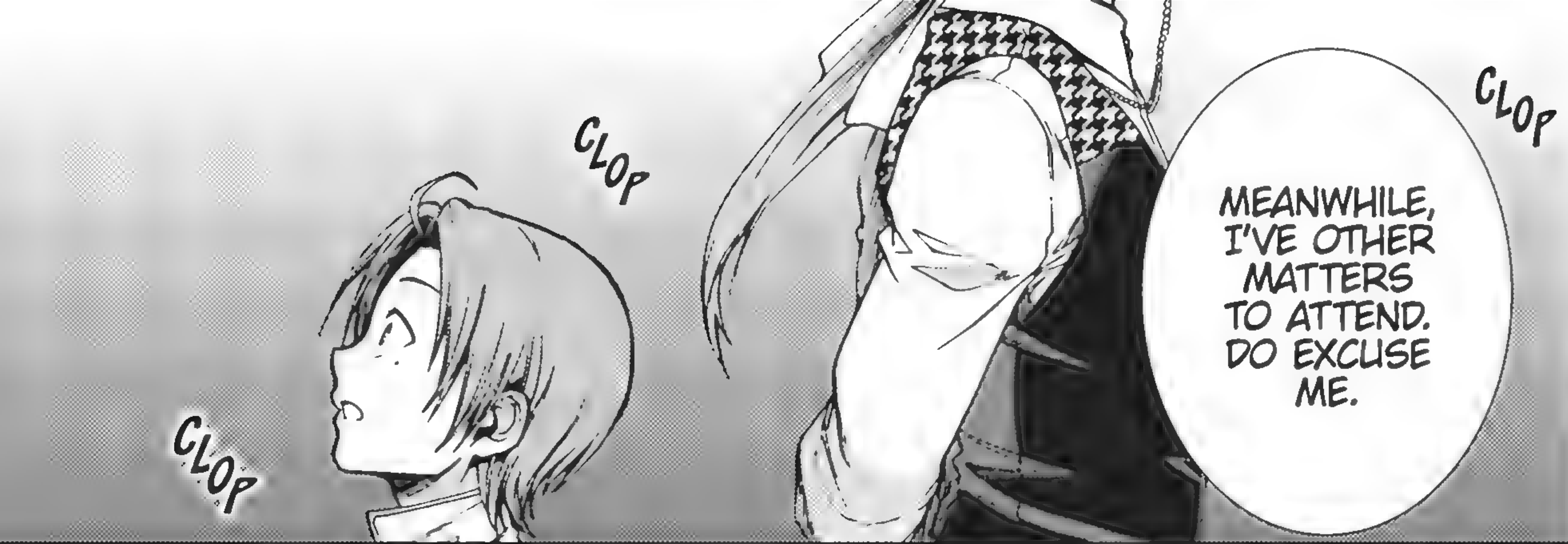










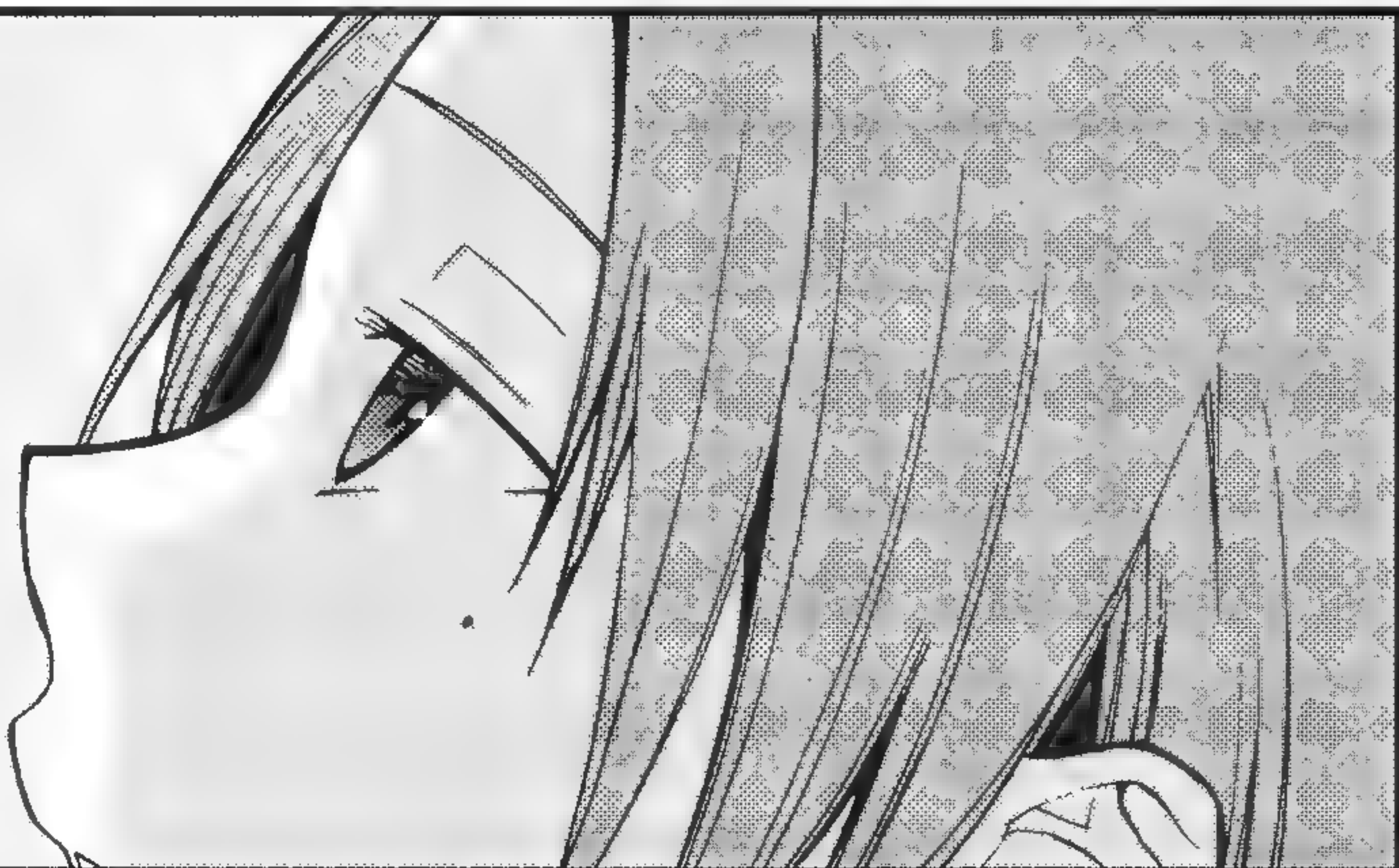


WE
WERE
A
FAMILY
....!

I
THOUGHT...



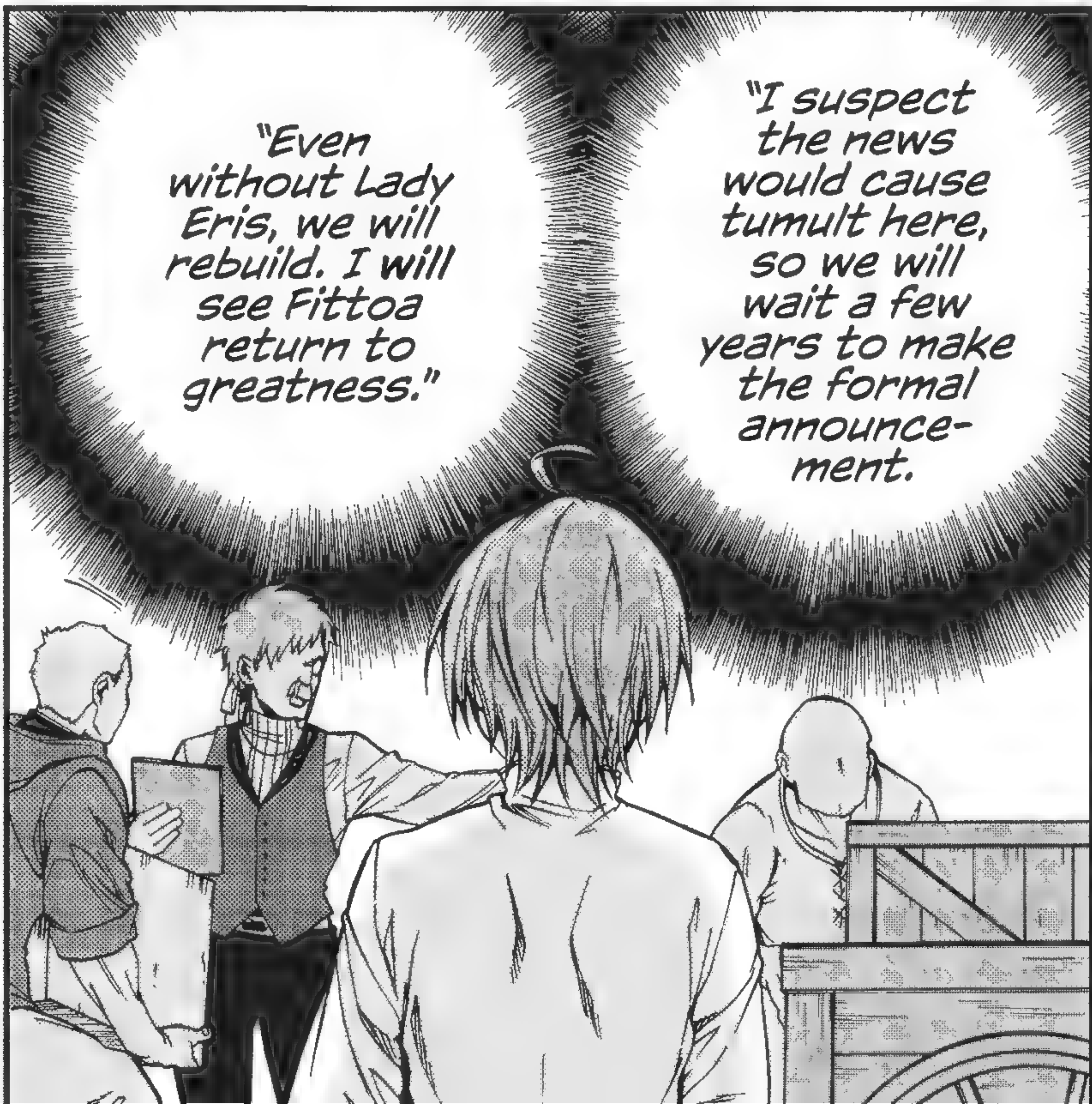
"Officially,
we will tell
everyone
that Lady
Eris is
dead."



WHO
CARES
ABOUT
FITTOA?

"Even
without Lady
Eris, we will
rebuild. I will
see Fittoa
return to
greatness."

"I suspect
the news
would cause
tumult here,
so we will
wait a few
years to make
the formal
announce-
ment."



I
JUST...
DON'T
UNDER-
STAND...

WHAT
I WANT
TO
KNOW
IS WHY
SHE
LEFT
ME.



MAYBE SHE
DIDN'T LIKE
THE IDEA OF
A GUY LIKE
ME HANGING
AROUND
UNTIL THE
DAY OF OUR
PROMISE.

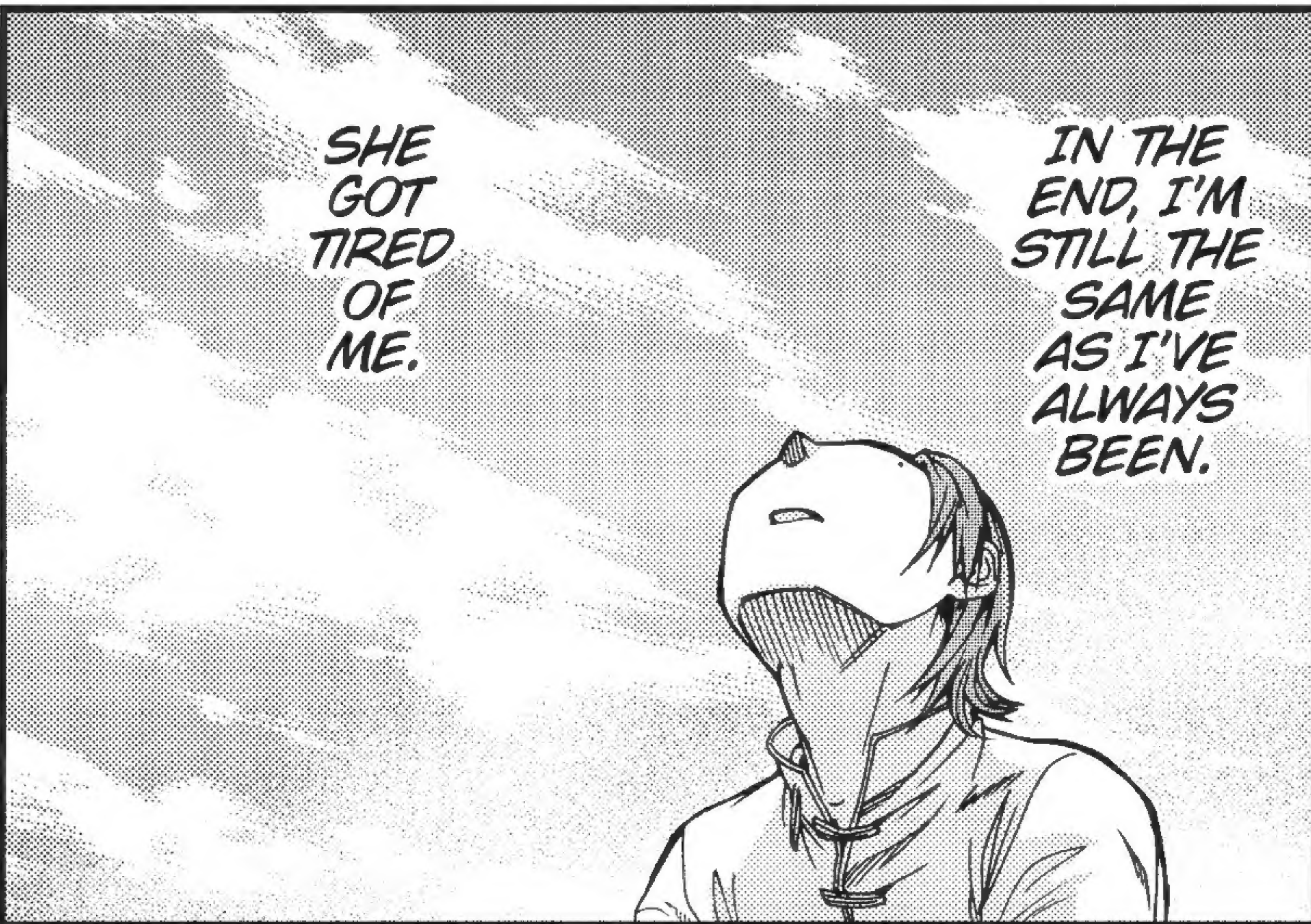
LOOKING
BACK, I
SCREWED
UP SO
MUCH
THESE
PAST
THREE
YEARS.



SHE
GOT
TIRED
OF
ME.

IN THE
END, I'M
STILL THE
SAME
AS I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN.

SO SHE
FULFILLED
IT EARLY,
SAID HER
GOODBYES,
AND WENT
HER OWN
WAY.



OH...
THAT'S
RIGHT.



I
BETTER
GO
FIND
HER.

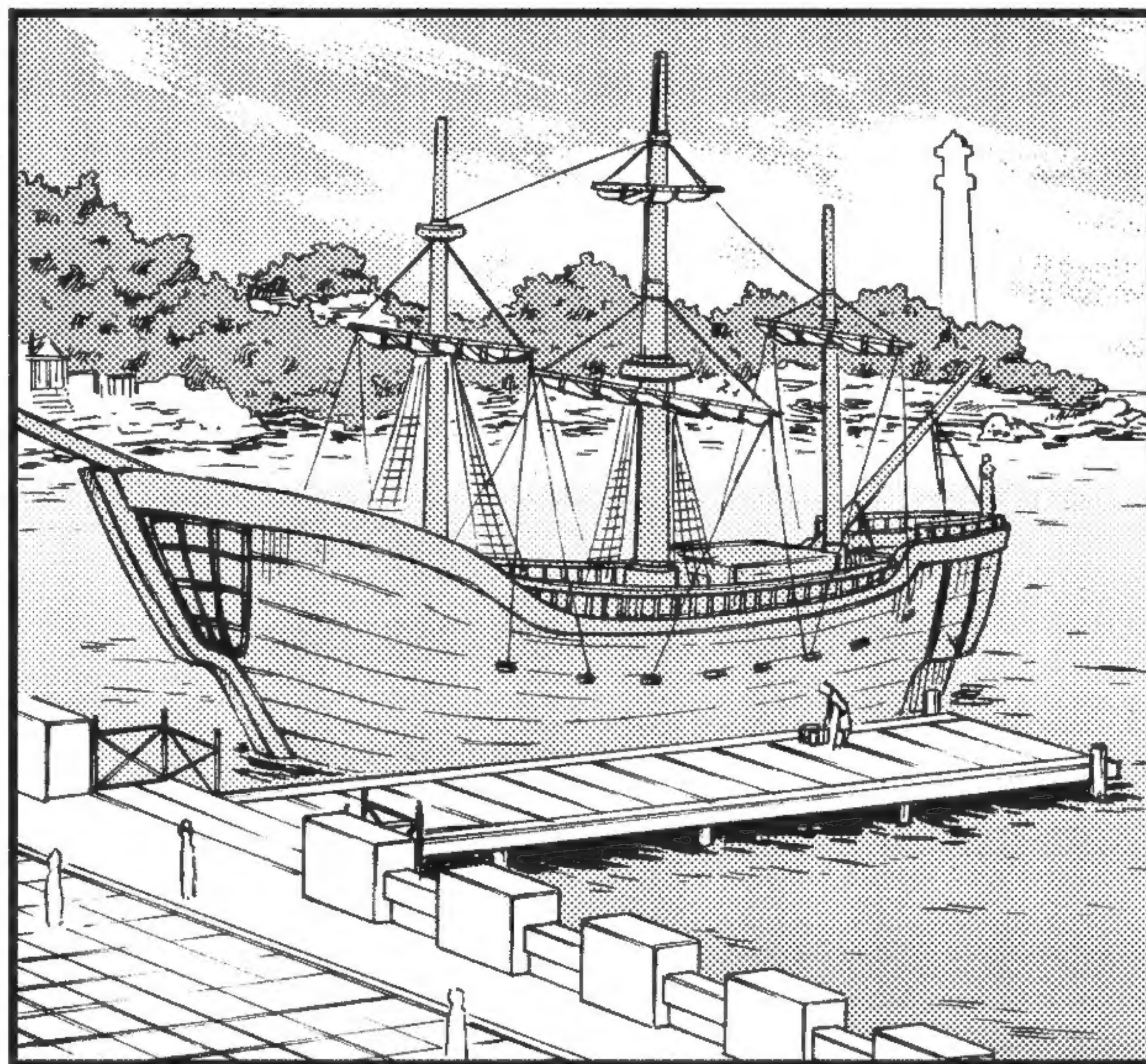
TRUDGE

ZENITH...

TRUDGE

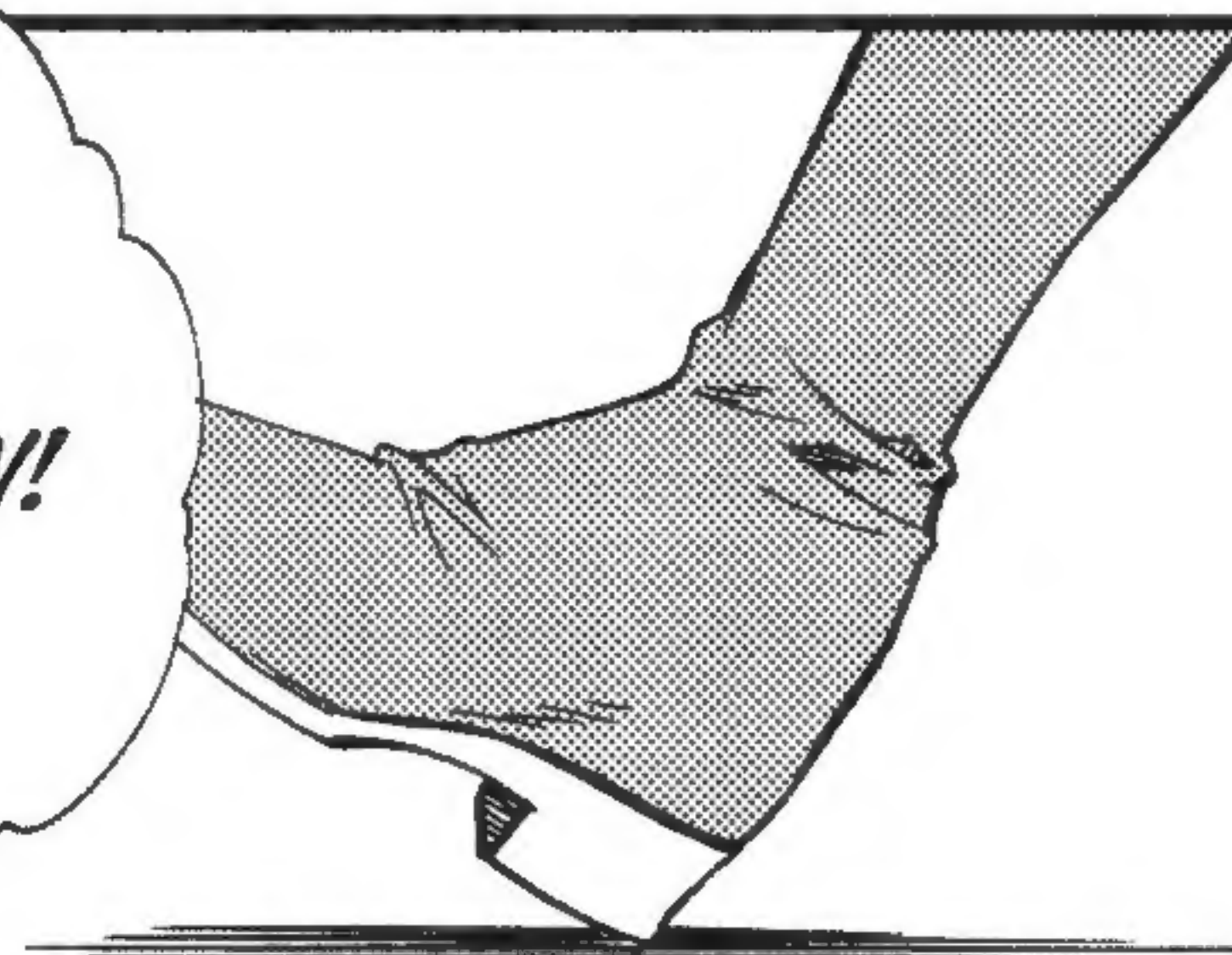


SO,
WE'RE
FINALLY
HERE! THE
CENTRAL
CONTI-
NENT!



PHEW!

KLAK



NEXT UP,
WE FIND
RUDELIS
GREYRAT!



The story continues in Volume 11!